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AFFAIRS IN THE SOUTH

Action of the Legislature of Mississippi.

Peculiar Ideas of Loyalty to the Union.

What the People at Large Think and Say.

MISSISSIPPI'S SHARE IN THE LATE WAR.

Traveling Through the Great Cotton State.

The Present Appearance and Condition of Vicksburg.

How Col. Thomas Manages the Freedmen's Affairs.

Traveling Through the State of Alabama.

The City of Montgomery and its Memories.

JACKSON, MISS., Saturday, Jan. 20, 1866.

If one must judge the tone of the people of Mississippi by the acts of her Legislature, which, indeed, would be a most natural conclusion, an opinion would prevail that Mississippians had failed to appreciate that magnanimity which has been extended them by the very party who had all to do with their defeat. But, singular as it may seem, I have yet to find the man—in office or out—from Gov. HUMPHREY down to the most obscure individual, who does not express himself displeased and dissatisfied with the performances of the late Legislature. In fact, so I am informed by Gov. HUMPHREY and others, nearly one-half of the legislators have written letters confessing that their acts have found no favor with their constituents, and openly admit that their legislation on the question of the freedmen was exceedingly narrow, and that it evinced a lack of wisdom and statesmanship. In a conversation with Gov. HUMPHREY yesterday he informed me that he was disgusted with much of the proceedings of the late Legislature. He informed me that he would not have signed the bill at all allowing the negroes to vote, and not permitting them to hold property, &c., had he not been urged to do so by Judge SHARKEY, who argued that something in their behalf was better than nothing at all.

The bill of the Legislature of Mississippi especially repugnant and unstatesmanlike was carried through by the narrow-minded men from the rural districts—and the rural districts of Mississippi comprise nearly the whole of the State. These poor donkey-brained men are more afraid of a negro than they are of Pluto himself. So they passed a bill giving the negroes a right to hold property in the city, but not in the country; in other words, they have expelled the negro from the country, and filled the few cities they have here full of them—just the very thing the people didn't want them to do.

The actions of the Legislature of this State, in many other respects, were unfortunate. The unconstitutional Stay Law, which the members, under the influence of GHOLSON and TAYLER, passed over the Governor's veto, was a flagrant piece of impudence. Their refusal to reconsider the bill, which was ordered to be disregarded by the President, was an insult to the magnanimous man who would save them from the halter, if they would save themselves. Policy should have dictated to these madmen to have repealed a bill, the enactment of which was manifestly distasteful at Washington. But they adjourned *sine die* without seemingly noticing any of their discrepancies.

These men did a greater wrong than merely doing wrong. There can be no excuse for them, for they maliciously did wrong, and knew that they were doing wrong. One gentleman, who had been crowded off the sidewalk by a negro guard, the next day said that, his constituents to the contrary notwithstanding, he would never give the black scoundrels a right to hold property within a hundred miles of him. Still another narrow minded individual gave as his reason for voting against giving the negroes their just rights, that "the next thing the Abolitionists would want us to do would be to give the niggers a right to vote."

From all that I can understand, there were a great many such gentlemen in the Legislature, who seemed determined to sacrifice all the interests of their commonwealth, just because a negro soldier was offensive to them. Gov. HUMPHREY and Judges SHARKEY and YERGER counseled these men, early in their proceedings, to abandon their fanatical course and make their peace with the government first, and let things purely of a private character follow. TAYLER, LYLE and GHOLSON counseled differently, and their followers pitched after them like a flock of sheep.

The majority of the people of the State are in favor of the reassembling of the convention, which at its last meeting, adjourned subject to the call of its President during the ensuing six months. The convention, which did not have the back-bone to do some things which it should have done, but which it expected the Legislature would do instead, made provision for an emergency, and the majority of the people, as I have stated above, consider that the emergency has arrived. Nearly all of the newspapers think the same, and are in favor of an immediate call for another session of the convention. The only leading papers that oppose this movement are the *Clarion* and the *News*, of Jackson. The former thinks that, as the State government has been reorganized, there is no necessity of it. The *News* opposes it because the *News* is as much a disloyal paper as it dare be. It is edited by one of the Yerger family, who thinks he is colossal in intellect, and, physically speaking, an Apollo Belvidere. He is called Prince YERGER, and rejoices in his title. But a good many people say he is a fool, and I guess that's nearer to the truth of the thing. It seems to me quite certain that he has forgotten that there has been a war—he has at least forgot which side *got whipped*.

THE FEELING OF THE PEOPLE.

South Carolina and Mississippi were the two great "fire-eating" States before the war. The former, however, was more shrewd and systematical in her fire-eating propensities than the latter. South Carolina was always at war with some person or some section outside of her own territory, yet South Carolinians generally seemed to understand things among themselves. Once in a while some high-toned fellow would kill his friend or neighbor because he was not quite as high-toned as he should be, or because he was not a Carolinian *par excellence;* but, as a general thing, they got along pretty well among themselves. Not so with this State. Mississippians were not content with making mince-meat of outsiders, but they were continually shooting and cutting among themselves. And they haven't got bravely over it, by any means. I do not know of any Northern person or soldier who has been harmed since the war by any of these fire-eating parties, but I do know that they have been shooting and cutting each other all over the State, to a greater extent than in all the other States of the Union put together. They argue generally in the South that the man who gives the lie should be shot dead. This may be so—but, if it is so, the practice of giving the lie ought to cease. But it has not ceased in this section, neither has the practice ceased of shooting men dead for taking much liberty. I read of cutting and shooting in every little paper I take up, while I have seen more of it in the last few days than I saw in the city of New-York in six years. I saw a colored man stabbed at the depot yesterday. He was watching his trunk, which was on the platform, when a big, rough fellow ordered him to move it. The negro told him that he wouldn't do it, and the other drew a knife and cut him in the neck, adding that "no nigger should insult him." A case of shooting occurred in this city a few days ago of the most awful character, in which two men under nineteen years of age shot each other dead.

Although I have seen no absolute disloyalty in this State, yet there seems to be more bitterness and discontent manifested than in any other section I have been. Wherever this feeling exists, there is no mistaking it. You hear no one say a word against the government, but you do hear very strong expressions against negro soldiers and New-Englanders. I heard an old fellow say that he could smell a Yankee before he could see him. Really, I have heard more such expressions in this State in a few days than I have heard all over the South during the past five months. Although Gov. HUMPHREY, it seems to me, means to do right, he is the first Governor I have met in the South who uses the word Yankees instead of Federals. Again, in speaking to me about the destruction of property in this city, he said, "that's some of the work of your vandals." This may be taken as the tenor of the temper of the people generally, in this portion of the State, at least. On the whole, the Mississippians have not come up to their share of the work of reconstruction and restoration as the people of Florida, Georgia and Alabama have done. They look black and mean at you, and keep up that old style, which is about played out in most parts of the South, of sneaking up to the hotel-registers to see where you come from—to see "whether you are a Yankee or a high-toned Southern gentleman." I told Gov. HUMPHREY that, although I didn't intend to criticise the actions of Mississippi in his presence, I thought she was far behind the other States in their expressions of loyalty and obedience. He said, "It is true, our Legislature acted foolishly—to such an extent that the members are being denounced by the people all over the State. But the people are doing very well, under the circumstances. The fact is, they hate nigger soldiers and freedmen's bureaus; and until they are removed you cannot expect a healthy current of confidence and good feeling. Everyone is afraid of the negro soldiers—they crowd everybody off the sidewalks, and shoot and kill us, and protect the freedmen in their indolence and acts of crime. Although we may be loyal and obey the laws, *we cannot heartily love the government that countenances such things.*" He then went on to tell me that Mississippi, in the way of negroes, was differently situated from all the other States. He said: "Here is a thing not generally known in the North. For the last fifty years all of the slaves of the Southern States east of the Mississippi River who could not be to be made to behave, and hundreds of those who had committed crimes, &c., were sent to this State for treatment. You see by this that Mississippi was the receptacle for all the wicked and lawless blacks in the country. Much of this element still remains, and the Freedmen's Bureau, not understanding this fact as they should, not only protect these lawless fellows, but actually listen to and heed their statements in preference to our own." I give these remarks of Gov. HULPHREYS as I listened to them, as the best means of describing the state of feeling in Central Mississippi.

THE FREEDMEN.

The freedmen are doing full as well in this portion of the State as in Alabama, Georgia or Florida, so far as I am capable of understanding their status. The people complain that they will not work on the plantations—that they flock to the cities too much. This is natural, for many reasons. First, the negro, in this particular, is much like the white man—he will do no hard work if he can help it. Plantation work is the hardest of all labor, and the negro, with very good sense, prefers other work if he can get it to do. Again, the late Legislature did many things which served to drive the negro from the country into the city. It passed a law forbidding the negro to own property in the country, and as many of the negroes have considerable sums of money, they have, with commendable good taste, left the rural districts wholly to their verdant friends, and taken up their abodes in the cities.

I do not see much indolence in this section, at any rate. The fact is, prices for labor are advancing, and the negroes are holding back. The negroes on many of the plantations are getting very high wages. Thousands have made contracts for $15 a month, and lodged, clothed and fed, and the owners of plantations all around here are offering $20 and cannot get takers. I went out about two miles to a plantation this morning, and saw about thirty negroes plowing up the ground for cotton in good earnest. The proprietor, Mr. TAYLOR, is most sanguine of the success of the free-labor question, and remarked to me that the negroes would work well enough if they were only paid for it. Mr. TAYLOR pays his hands $16 a month, gives them a suit of clothes, and gives them all they want to eat and has it cooked for them. He agrees to pay them $10 each every month, and reserve the balance, to be paid at the end of the year. He has also hired two strong white men, one to plow and the other to hoe. He pays the white men well to work hard, and tells the negroes that all he asks of them is to work when the white men do, and he also tells them that they may rest as long and as much as the white men do. Now this is a very good plan, and I know enough about the negroes to know that they will plow as much and hoe as much as the white men will. These plantation negroes have never seen a white man work, it must be remembered. Their only incentive to work has been the lash. Heretofore, they, like the white man, could not see the dignity of labor, and only worked when whipped. Dignify labor, as Mr. TAYLOR proposes to do, and the black man will do as much work as the white.

There are several plantations being run by the negroes themselves, the proprietors agreeing to give them one-half over and above all expenses. Help is so scarce, many of them who thought to make as much out of the negro as in days gone by are now often getting discouraged in their grinding way of doing business, in the market making precisely such terms as the above. Many of the first plantations in the country are being worked by part white and part black men. In fact, everybody wants to make cotton, and all methods of free labor are being tried.

The negroes are wanted in this State more than in any other, partially on account of its being the greatest cotton-growing State in the Union. The negroes are being paid higher wages than in any other State, and the people themselves are treating them with more consideration and liberality. It is hoped by all classes that the Legislature at its next session may declare by law that the negroes shall be put on the same footing as the whites. They must be allowed to sue and be sued in all the courts of justice, and to testify therein; they must be allowed to buy out, run, and hold property, like other citizens; all their loyal obligations as regards contracts, &c., &c., must be as generous and as binding as on the whites. And this service will elevate every section of country which they inhabit.

MISSISSIPPI IN THE WAR.

Mississippi had over sixty thousand soldiers in the war, nearly one-fourth of whom were killed or died from the effects of wounds and disease. Early in the war, the soldiers from this State were killed off in great numbers, owing to their desire to be put in the front ranks of battle. Like most of these gentlemen from this section, who thought that one Southerner could whip five Yankees, they got bravely over this feeling a long time before the termination of the war.

This State lost four Generals, killed or mortally wounded in battle. Gen. WILLIAM S. BARKSDALE, one of the most notorious of all the Southern fire-eaters, and formerly a member of Congress, was killed at the battle of Gettysburgh while at the head of his brigade. He died cursing the Union, and anything and everything connected with it. It is said that he was one of the most gallant men in the Confederate army. Mississippians claim that his brigade alone disputed the passage of BURNSIDE'S army at the battle of Fredericksburgh. He formerly resided at Columbus, in this State, and went into the field as Colonel of the Thirteenth Mississippi Infantry. This regiment actually lost two hundred and two men in its first engagement, killed and wounded.

Gen. GRIFFITH, who was killed at Fair Oaks, was a banker of this city. He was also a member of the red-hot, fire-eating school of politicians, and joined the rebellion at its start. He was in the Mexican war as Adjutant of JEFF. DAVIS' regiment. He was killed by a stray shot. He was at the battle of Bull Run, and led a Mississippi regiment with great gallantry, it is said. It was for gallant conduct on this celebrate field that he received a commission as Brigadier-General.

Gen. WHITING, who was mortally wounded at Fort Fisher, and died at the North, was originally a northern man, and was an engineer in the regular army. A gentleman who knew him well says that "he was a little dried-up man with the finest eye that ever glistened." He was looked upon as the best engineer in the Southern army, and as a great military man in any capacity. He was first a Colonel in HOOD'S brigade, and for a long time commanded that brigade.

Gen. WOODBURN POSEY, formerly a United States District Attorney, and brother of Judge POSEY, of this State, was killed at Brandy Station. He went out as Colonel of the Sixteenth Mississippi, and was twice wounded in the Shenandoah Valley. Those who knew him well say that he was both reckless and brave.

Besides these four Generals, who were killed in battle, was Gen. EARL VAN DORN, who was killed by a Mr. PETERS in Middle Tennessee, more than two years ago. VAN DORN was a very small and a very handsome man, and was born at Port Gibson, in this State. He was a Captain in the regular army at the commencement of the war, and when his State seceded, tried to get Gens KING and GILLEM and other Federal Generals to go with him. It was he who persuaded Gen. J. B. HOOD to go with the South. It seems that Gen. HOOD was pausing as to the best course to pursue. He was born in Kentucky and had his home in TEXAS, and neither of these States had taken any decided part at that time. VAN DORN was one of the bravest and most daring of all the Southern cavalry officers, and had a brilliant education. He had command at Vicksburgh for a long time at the commencement of the war, and among his other villainous *rôles* seduced three sisters in one family. He fought a great battle at Corinth in October, 1862, in which, after clearing out ROSECRANS, he was badly defeated by reinforcements which were sent from Gen. GRANT. His proclamation of martial law at Vicksburgh and his defence of his performance at Corinth, it is said, were excellent documents. He was a great pet of JEFF. DAVIS, and it is said by his enemies that the bogus President was really the author of these papers. It will be recollected that VAN DORN performed a good many cavalry feats in this State, among which was his destruction of five million dollars worth of Federal stores at Holly Springs. He subsequently figured very successfully in Middle Tennessee, and in one fight captured nearly three thousand prisoners at Spring Hill. He had a practice of running after other men's wives, which was put a stop to one day, by a Mr. PETERS, who shot him dead at his own house. I believe the latter, who was first arrested by our own men, and afterward by the Confederate authorities, never assigned any reason for the act, yet it is generally known what induced it.

The whereabouts of the living general officers are as follows: HUMPHREYS, who was a general in LONGSTREET'S corps during the whole of the war, and who voted for secession, &c., is governor of the State, and is in this city. He is West Pointer. Gen. S. G. FRENCH, who got so beautifully mixed at Natchez, is at present in certain a year ago last fall, is at home on his plantation in Washington County. Gen. CHAS. CLARKE, formerly governor of the State, and who was reported mortally wounded at the battle of Baton Rouge, is on his plantation in Bolivar Co. Gen. S. D. LEE, one of the finest officers in the late Confederate army, is practising law at Columbus. Gen. JOSEPH R. DAVIS is on his plantation in Madison County, trying to make cotton. Gen. S. J. GHILSON is practising law at Aberdeen. He was wounded severely at Fort Donelson, and was again wounded at West Point by GRIERSON'S raiders, and taken up for dead. He was a member of the late Legislature, and acted as though he thought the war was still going on. Gen. N. H. HARRIS, of Vicksburgh, has just been elected Major-General of the State militia. Gen. T. MARTIN, who has been practising law at Natchez since the war, has been made Brigadier-General of State militia. Gen. CHARLEY LONG is at Holly Springs, looking up old friends and other old matters. His home is at Brandon. Gen. W. S. FEATHERSTON, who was severely wounded in front of Atlanta, is at Holly Springs. Gen. W. S. BRANDON is at his home in Wilkinson County. Gen. E. C. WALTHAL is practising law at Grenada. WALTHALL was opposed to secession, but when into the fight his cause as he says, he thought it was right. He was a very brave man in battle, and is now doing all he can to promote a lasting peace. He could have been elected to the United States Senate, it is said, but declined, on account of the test oath. He told his friends that as the Government desired it, they had better send men to Washington who could take the prescribed oath.

SKETCH OF JACKSON.

Before the arrival of the "Vandals," as SHERMAN'S army is called here, Jackson must have been quite a pretty little city. The city is beautifully shaded, and contains a population of about four thousand people. The public buildings comprise a magnificent state Capitol of brick and sandstone, and executive mansion, City Hall and State Penitentiary. The City Hall is a fine-looking edifice. This city also contains asylums for the deaf and dumb and for the blind, and a State Lunatic Asylum. A large number of the fine buildings of this city were destroyed a couple of years ago by SHERMAN'S army. This place used to transact a large commercial business, especially about this season of the year, when a heavy exchange used to be made with merchandise for cotton. Jackson is also quite an important railroad centre, there being lines running north, east, south and west—north to Memphis and other cities, east to Alabama, south to New-Orleans, and west to Vicksburgh. Corn and cotton used to be raised here in great abundance, and it is to be hoped that these times have not passed entirely away. Before the war over thirty thousand bales of cotton used to be forwarded from this neighborhood annually. There are three daily papers here—the *Clarion, Standard* and *Mississippian*.

BEN. C. TRUMAN.

Traveling in Mississippi—Condition of the Country—Remarkable Changes in Opinion and Behavior—The Freedmen's Bureau—Abandoned Lands, &c.

From Our Special Correspondent.

VICKSBURGH, Tuesday, Jan. 23, 1866.

An arrangement called a railroad train brought me to this place from Jackson, on what is known as the Southern Mississippi Railroad. There are some very pretty places on the line of this road, and the country is among the richest in Mississippi. The neighborhood about Clinton, ten miles from Jackson, is celebrated for its healthfulness. In 1853-4-5, the yellow fever made sad havoc with the lives of the people in all the neighboring counties, while this section of the country totally escaped the direful scourge. In 1860, this part of the country, in addition to enough corn for home consumption, raised thirteen thousand bales of cotton. The whole country hereabouts abounds in mineral springs, the most celebrated of which are the Cooper's Well and Mississippi Springs, the water of which is noted for its efficacy in dyspepsia and other ailments. The next place from Jackson is Bolton's, distance nineteen miles. The surrounding country has a rich black loam soil, and used to produce for shipment, annually, more than ten thousand bales of cotton. Fifty thousand bales of cotton used to be annually sent to Vicksburgh from the towns of Clinton, Bolton's, Edward's, Big Black and Binna, which are the principal depots and stations upon the road.

All through this portion of the country labor is exceedingly scarce, and the colored people, in many cases, are making contracts for $18 and $20 a month, with rations, &c. The only great drawback to a successful free labor system that I can see now, is the changeableness of the negroes. They do not like to stay in one place but a short time. More colored people than whites are traveling upon some of these roads, all of whom are compelled to pay full fare. The conductor of the train of to-day, told me that he had carried some of the colored people back and forth three or four times. The fact is, the poor fellows have been bound down so long, that they want to test fully their freedom. They seem to imagine that, if they make contracts for a long time, the everlasting horrors of slavery, from which they have just escaped, will be again fixed upon them. But there are a great many negroes who prefer a filthy life of indolence, to anything else. They will not work if they can eke out a miserable life by stealing and picking up occasional jobs. This class of negroes live round in huts, and in old boilers, and in culverts and under bridges, and only leave their holes upon the approach of a railroad train. But, with all the poverty and indolence I have seen among this class, I confess that more terrible pictures may be seen in the great city of New-York daily.

A great deal better feeling prevails all through this section of the country than in Central Mississippi. I cannot claim that much real patriotism exists; but I do claim that they are ten times more loyal and more honest than those politicians and those stay at home editors of extreme Radical newspapers, like the Cincinnati *Gazette* for instance, who are crying for more blood, and who are attempting to create a feeling of everlasting hate between the two sections. This rank fire-eating State, which has failed, I think, to do what was expected from it by the masses of the North who support the President in his constitutional policy, has undergone a great change, and I actually believe that if there was not a Federal soldier in the State, Mr. WENDELL PHILLIPS could travel through it and speak his peculiar opinions upon the future of the negro without personal injury. I do not think he would be the recipient of any cordiality on the part of the people—in fact I believe he would be insulted—but he has been insulted so many times and so grossly in the cities of Cincinnati, Philadelphia, and even Boston, that he could consistently overlook it in this fire-eating section. The fact is, this feeling has been pretty well whipped out of the people of this State, and they are acting more like men than murderers, and any person is safe within its limits.

In Vicksburg there is a great change from a year ago. I was in this city last February, and saw a multiplicity of disloyal manifestations right in the face and eyes of thousands of Federal officers and soldiers. But the war was going on, and I did not look upon such conduct as strange. Now, that the war has ceased to exist, I discern here a general good feeling, especially among the male classes, and an absence of disloyalty, which is perfectly electrifying. From the moment the war ended, up to the present time, there has been no real ill feeling for or opposition to the Government. The people generally acknowledge that they were handsomely and fairly beaten; and "though I am sorry we did not succeed," they will say, "I am determined to be loyal to the Government." Wherever I go, I endeavor to get into conversation with all classes of the people, including Confederate officers and soldiers, original secessionists, and straight-out Union men, and find out the real state of their feeling. And I also take particular pains to call upon all the Federal officers and get their opinions respecting the tenor of the feeling of the people as they see it or interpret it. And I find, with but very few exceptions, that the latter class join in saying that the people here, and all over the South, have accepted the decree of things with unparalleled cordiality, and with a freedom from all hostility beyond their most sanguine anticipations.

I had quite a protracted and pleasant interview this morning with my respected friend Gen. THOMAS J. WOOD, who commands the Department of Mississippi. It will be remembered that Gen. WOOD has in every battle fought by the Army of the Cumberland, from Stone River to the battle of Nashville, and has been twice wounded. He is also one of the most radical officers in the army, which makes his observations go a great way with me. I asked him plumply what he thought of the people, and how they were acting in his department, and he said substantially as follows: "As a general thing the people were acting nobler than we could have expected them to. They admit that their struggle for seperation was a grand failure, and they manifest a disposition to obey the laws and become loyal citizens of the Union. Strictly speaking there is no disloyalty on the part of the people with whom I have come in contact, and strictly speaking there is as yet very little evidence of patriotism—that is, what we call patriotism—but we cannot expect them to be patriotic in our sense of the word; we do not want to see a too sudden change—such professions of patriotism or over-zealous loyalty on their part would be in direct opposition to all the instincts of human nature, and we should distrust them as heartily as we confide in them now." In speaking of the Legislature of the State Gen. WOOD said that it had done a great many unwise things, but that he and Gov. HUMPHREYS had a perfect and cordial understanding with each other. As a general thing, Gen. WOOD was pleased with the conduct of the people, and he believed that they meant to do right. He, like all sensible men, and good, sterling patriots and soldiers, is in favor of the institution of the Freedmen's Bureau, for the mutual benefit of the whites and the blacks. He is also in favor of keeping a certain number of white soldiers in the South; he believes that the war for the preservation of the Union was a thorough success, and fully indorses the President in his restoration policy, &c., &c. Gen. WOOD is one of the most brilliant officers in our army, and has distinguished himself in many battles. At the battle of Nashville he was on crutches, and commanded his corps in that situation. He was hit in the same place at the battles of Stone River and New-Hope Church, and is lamed for life.

I also had an interview with Col. SAMUEL THOMAS, the distinguished Commissioner of Freedmen for this State, who is an officer of more than ordinary ability. In speaking of the Legislature he quietly remarked that he indorsed all the good acts pertaining to his department, &c., and paid no attention to the laws which restrained in the least the complete liberty of the freedmen, or which came in contact with him in the performance of what he considered his duty, &c. Col. THOMAS seems to think that there will be large amounts of cotton raised in Mississippi this year. He told me that several of the largest plantations in the neighborhood were stocked, and that work thereon was progressing well. Nearly all of the passengers, including several ladies, upon the train from Jackson, came to this city to seek help. Col. THOMAS says that he has hundreds of applications daily for help, but none for work or assistance. The Fifty-fifth Colored Infantry was mustered out of the service last week, and several more are to be mustered out during the present month, but at present none of these gay boys will make contracts—they have got too much money to think of working on a cotton plantation. Hely is getting scarcer every day. As an illustration of the scarcity of labor I will tell you the following: A young gentleman of Montgomery, Ala., named RODGERS, owns a plantation just above here on the river, of 1,800 acres. He came to this city with $25,000 to equip it with, and offered Capt. PANNISS, a New-Yorker, and formerly of A. J. SMITH'S staff, *one-half of the proceeds of the cotton they should raise if he would get the help.* This Capt. PANNISS failed to do, and after running around for negroes for nearly a month they have abandoned this scheme. This would be a fine chance for some white laborers, as arrangements could be made for work on halves. I transmit you the following excellent orders of Col. THOMAS:

BUREAU OF REFUGEES, FREEDMEN AND ABANDONED LANDS.

[CIRCULAR NO. 2.]

OFFICE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, VICKSBURGH, Miss., Jan. 2, 1866.

To the Colored People of Mississippi:

Having been charged with the affairs of the Freedmen's Bureau in Mississippi, I am your lawful protector and adviser, and, to some extent, am held responsible for your conduct. If you suffer, or become idle or vicious, blame is attached to me or my officers, even when the fault is not our's.

With the end of 1865 your contracts expired. My officers approved the contracts, and did all they could to compel both you and your employers to live up to them. In many places these contracts did not secure you more than food and clothes, because you contracted so late that it was impossible to raise a crop.

Many complaints are made that you did not regard a contract as sacred; that you failed to work as you agreed, acted as you pleased, and visited at a distance, deserting the crop when you knew that your employer would lose all by your failure to keep your contract. On the other hand, it is said by you that the planters have failed to pay and treat you as agreed upon.

This is all wrong. Your contracts were explained to you, and their sacredness impressed upon you again and again. You know that when you make a contract you are bound to give all the labor for which your employer agrees to pay. Efforts have been made by my officers to compel you to perform labor according to agreements, that employers might have no excuse for failing to do their part.

The time has arrived for you to contract for another year's labor. I wish to impress upon you the importance of doing this at once. You know that if a crop of cotton is raised the work must be begun soon and the hands employed for the year. If you do not contract with the men who wish to employ you, what do you propose to do? You cannot live without work of some kind. Your houses and lands belong to the white people, and you cannot expect that they will allow you to live on them in idleness. It would be wrong for them to do so, and no officer of the government will protect you in it. If you stay on the plantations where you are, you must agree to work for the owners of them; if not, move out of the way and give place to more faithful laborers.

I hope you are all convinced that you are not to receive property of any kind from the government, and that you must labor for what you get like other people. I often hear that you are crowding into towns, refuse to hire out, and are waiting to see what the government will do for you. As the representative of the government, I tell you that is very foolish, and your refusal to work is used by you enemies to your injury. I know you can get good wages with considerate employers, who will treat you well and pay for all you do. Everything possible shall be done to secure you good treatment. Make contracts for the year and go to work, and you will secure homes. The government hopes you will do your duty, and in return will secure you all the rights of freemen. The season in which planters will think it worth while to employ you will soon be passed, and if then you are found idle you may be taken up and set to work where you will not like it. The State cannot and ought not to let any man lie about idle, without property, doing mischief. A vagrant law is right in principle. I cannot ask the civil officers to leave you alone, to beg or steal. If they find any of you without business and means of living they will do right if they treat you as bad persons, and take away your misused liberty.

Some of you have the absurd notion that if you put your hands to a contract you will somehow be made slaves. This is all nonsense, made up by some foolish or wicked person. There is no danger of this kind to fear, nor will you be branded when you get on a plantation. Any white man treating you so would be punished. Your danger lies exactly in the other direction. If you do not have some occupation you will be treated as vagrants, and made to labor on public works.

Do not believe all the bad stories you hear. Malicious persons take pleasure in making you afraid. Do not listen to them; all their croaking certainly does you no good. Do they tell you how to get food and clothes without work?

You must be obedient to the law. I do not think the people of Mississippi have made all laws that relate to you as they ought to have done; but even if there be some things denied to you as yet which you wish to gain, you cannot get them by disobedience and idleness. You cannot make people treat you well by showing that you do NOT deserve it. If you wish for rights do right yourselves. If you desire privileges show that they may be safely intrusted to you. Such a course, with patience, will make you happy and prosperous.

I hope that a sense of justice, benevolence and enlightened self-interest will lead the white people to set you a good example of faithfulness and honor in observing contracts.

SAMUEL THOMAS,
Assistant Commissioner State of Mississippi.

BUREAU OF REFUGEES, FREEDMEN AND ABANDONED LANDS.

OFFICE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, FOR STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, VICKSBURGH, Miss., Dec. 31, 1865.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 16.—The time has arrived when it is important that the freedmen of this State should make contracts for labor during the coming year, in order that a crop may be secured.

Some regulations must govern all classes, in order to secure to the freedmen the payment of wages, and to planters the labor for which they agree to pay.

It is important that the freedmen should feel their obligations to society and to civil government, as the time will come when their interests must be committed to the State, with no other agency to care for them. There can be no better time for the freedmen to familiarize themselves with life and common forms of law, under civil government, than at a time when officers of the general government are here, whose duty it is to see that their rights are respected.

In fact, we fail in the discharge of our whole duty to them, if we do not take every means within our power to instil into their minds respect for the civil law and the sacredness of contracts and obligations. There can be no better time for the citizens of the State who have not thoroughly recognized the present status of the freedmen to accustom themselves, as officers of the State government, to lay aside their prejudices, grant the freedmen the rights to which they, as free men, are entitled, and protect them by just administration of law. The sooner they are protected with the power that must eventually be charged with the security for their persons and property, the better for both classes.

It is therefore ordered, that no rules or regulations will be issued by officers of this bureau with reference to the freedmen contracting. As the following clause of the State law is substantially what has heretofore been the regulation of this department of the general government, the attention of officers, planters and freedmen is invited to its requirements:

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That all contracts for labor made with freedmen, free negroes and mulattoes for a longer period than one month, shall be in writing and in duplicate, attested and read to said freedman, free negro or mulatto, by a beat, city or county officer, or some disinterested white persons of the county in which the labor is to be performed, of which each party shall have one; and said contracts shall be taken and held as entire contracts; and if the laborer shall quit the service of the employer, before the expiration of his term of service, without good cause, he shall forfeit his wages for that year, up to the time of quitting.

It will be seen that magistrates register contracts, and that the parties who contract are left to regulate the conditions, wages, &c.

It will be the duty of officers of this bureau to see that the freedmen are properly contracted with; while they have no power to interfere with the action of the magistrate, or the administration of the State law, they will on all occasions act as the next friend of the freedmen, give them proper advice in all matters pertaining to contracts; and, on complaint being made that the colored people are not allowed to exercise all their privileges as freedmen, or that their ignorance is being taken advantage of in any way so as to inveigle them into oppressive contracts, a full statement of the matter will be forwarded to this office, that the proper action may be taken for their protection.

Officers of the bureau must not relax their vigilance in watching the exercise of authority by the State officials, and should be prompt in reporting all cases that need the interference of higher authority.

It is to be hoped that the civil officers to whom this is committed will be actuated by a spirit of justice and equity, and that they will take into account on all occasions, the extreme ignorance of the freedmen in all business or legal matters, and explain, in a spirit of kindness, all the obligations that may come before them for approval.

By order of Col. SAMUEL THOMAS,
Assistant Commissioner for State of Mississippi.
HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF MISSISSIPPI,
VICKSBURGH, Miss., Jan. 6, 1866.
STUART ELDRIDGE, Lieut. and Act. Ass't Adj't-Gen.
Approved: TH. J. WOOD,
Major-General Vols., Commanding.
Official:
STUART ELDRIDGE, Lieut. and Act. Ass't Adj't-Gen.

The first negro regiment of the United States is located here—a full regiment of heavy artillery. I saw them drill when I was here a year ago, and thought it one of the finest martial displays I had ever seen. Most of the negro regiments stationed in this section were raised in immediate vicinities, and those private colored soldiers with whom I have conversed all agree that soldiering is better work than hoeing on a cotton plantation. It will be hard work for these fellows to come down to plantation labor again. A great many of them will turn small farmers. That's what hundreds of these narrow-minded people of Mississippi are afraid of—they know very well that the negro will work for himself, and they know very well that the negro will ultimately pocket about half the money that is made in this county.

Mississippi, as is well known, was before the war the most extensive cotton-growing State in the Union. The northern, central and river portions of the State are particularly adapted to the successful cultivation of the great staple. Like most of the extreme Southern States, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississipi River, this State terminates with "piney-woods country." Some of the richest lands in the State are liable to inundation, and in many cases the richest table-lands have precipitous benches, which expose the land to what is technically called by the agriculturists "washing."

This city is, of course, one of the most celebrated in the whole country, and is the spot where the great ULYSSES made his second ten-strike. It is the capital of Warren County, and lies on the Western declivity of hills known as the Walnut Bluffs, and is 46 miles by rail from Jackson, and about 400 by water from New-Orleans. It was laid out in the year 1824 by a gentleman named NEVITT VICK, and was incorporated as a city in 1836. The greatest event in the history of Vicksburgh up to the breaking out of the war was the summary punishment of five infamous characters, who suffered death at one fell swoop by the hands of an outraged public, which had endured the occurrence of the most awful of all crimes until public safety demanded their extermination. The execution occurred on the 5th of July, 1835. No place on the river presents a handsomer front than this city. Its elevated position of over two hundred feet above the river, its towering spires and beautiful residences, give it a picturesque appearance. The population before the war of four thousand people has just doubled itself, not including the soldiers. The tortuous Mississippi renders the country opposite Vicksburgh a peninsula, ten miles long and one mile wide, and here commences the Vicksburgh, Shreveport and Texas Railroad, which, when completed, must be a great line. Before the war 120,000 bales of cotton were shipped from here annually, near 90,000 of which were received from the interior, and the remainder from the Yazoo country.

Natchez, some one hundred odd miles below, is the largest city in Mississippi, and contains ten thousand people. Natchez is "a city set upon a hill"—and under it, too. That portion on the bluff is elevated nearly two hundred feet above the river, while "Natchez under the hill" contains the business portion of the city. Natchez was, like Vicksburgh, a conspicuous cotton port. Gen. WOOD speaks very well of the citizens of Natchez, and adds that he has had no trouble in that section during his military administration. Col. THOMAS speaks the same good word about the blacks of that section, and says that they and the whites are getting along on terms of satisfaction with each other.

The military department of the State is divided into three districts, two of which are commanded by Gens. OSTERHAUS and FORCE. Quite a number of colored soldiers will be mustered out of the service in a few days, and their places will be filled by a battalion of the Fifteenth Infantry, which is on its way from Mobile to this city.

BEN. C. TRUMAN.

The Richmond *Examiner* gives its readers this practical warning: "Since the evacuation of the city and the destruction of our Virginia banks, the habit has grown up of giving and receiving promissory notes not made payable at some bank, savings bank or institution in the State. By the law of Virginia such notes are not negotiable, and the holder is not protected from offsets or equities, and can only sue one of the parties at a time, and is subject to all the disabilities of a simple assignee. Notes made payable at some bank within the State are, by our statute, made negotiable, and the holder is protected against offsets and equities, and can in one action sue the maker and indorser. We would, therefore, advise our merchants to take only such notes as are payable at some bank in the State."

ALABAMA.

From Mobile to Montgomery—Exciting Ride over a Dilapidated Railroad—Varieties of Southern Character—Montgomery and its Reminiscences—Lively Debate in the Legislature.

From Our Own Correspondent.

——, Ala., January, 1866.

The rain that was pouring in torrents when we entered Mobile, continued with little intermission until our departure, three days after. All this time we enjoyed the hospitalities of the B. House, at the rate of four dollars a day, and our fare was sumptuous—over the left. The day was passed principally in gazing at the opposite windows, the night in combating musquitos (no bars,) and other interesting entomological specimens. What little we did see of the city, impressed us with the idea that though commercially important it possesses little to interest the stranger. The streets are narrow, and the buildings, in the business part of the town, for the most part, low and mean. We were told that back from the bay, there were fine streets with elegant residences, but as the rain and the mud kept us fast prisoners, we had no opportunity of verifying it. As a cotton port, and for its commercial advantages generally, Mobile stands unrivaled except by New-Orleans. Its three great rivers, the Alabama, Tombigbee and Black Warrior, with their branches, penetrate the very bowels of the land, and reach the heart of the richest cotton-growing country in the world, affording thousands of miles of interior navigation. But the resources of Alabama are not limited to its agricultural productions; it abounds also in mineral wealth. It has inexhaustible beds of coal and iron, and mines of gold, copper and other valuable metals. In the northern part of the State there is abundant water-power. Thus it will be seen Alabama possesses in profusion all the elements of wealth. It ought to be, and under the magic power of freedom, no doubt will become one of the richest States in the Union. For all this wealth, agricultural, mineral and manufacturing, Mobile is now, and must continue to be, the great commercial depot. The only drawback is the shallowness of the bay, preventing the approach of large vessels to its wharves. In this respect its neighboring city, Pensacola, with its fine harbor, enjoys superior advantages, but lacks the splendid river navigation of Mobile.

We were not at all sorry when, after three tedious days and one or two disappointments, we were enabled to make our escape and tear ourselves reluctantly from all the allurements of the B. House. The route to Montgomery is by steamboat to a point above Blakeley, on the Tensaw River, thence by the Mobile and Great Northern Railroad. A night ride of a hundred and sixty miles over a worn out Southern railroad, in dilapidated cars, was not a very pleasant prospect. Our whole company of sixty or seventy persons, including half-a-dozen ladies, was packed into one old, crazy passenger-car. The rails for a portion of the distance were laid on trestle-work, the undulations of which were more exciting than agreeable. The car, as we passed along, leaned now to the right and now to the left at an angle not soothing to contemplate. We had an opportunity of seeing some of the varieties of Southern character—planters were discussing the price of cotton, politicians the admission of "our members." Two or three old

CURRENT LITERATURE.

ABOARD THE PROMISED LAND.

From All the Year Round.

The "good ship" *Promised Land* really deserved that praise. She was new, had made only one voyage, in a remarkably short space of time, was copper-fastened, two hundred tons burden, was of course registered A1 at Lloyd's, and was now loading at the St. Winifred's Docks. Many had read the enticing and almost appetizing advertisement which had been in the *Times* for many days, under heading of "Steam to the Brazils," of the "spacious poop and after-decks," the "airy and well-ventilated saloons," and the decks "flush from end to end, and offering an agreeable and unobstructed promenade," of the surgeon, who was "experienced," of the "fire-annihilator," which was infallible, of the "water-condensing apparatus," and, above all, of that "favorite" Capt. Robert Magregor, who was "so well known on the American station." This collection of nautical blessings irresistibly induced me, when appointed engineer for surveying a new line of railway in the Brazils, to choose the new "bark-rigged liner," the *Promised Land*, and her Favorite Captain, Robert Magregor.

It was a long time, however, before the loading was done, and the ship ready to drop down the river. Meanwhile the collected inducements had a favorable impression on others beside myself, and on making some last inquiries at the office before sailing, I found that nearly all the berths had been taken up, and that we were to sail with a full complement of passengers and cargo. This was a very agreeable prospect; for to a good sailor, and before the novelty has worn off, a voyage is one of the pleasantest incidents in life. At last a sort of intimidating notice appeared, quite different from the alluring tone of previous invitations: all must be on board by a certain Thursday, and by a certain hour, otherwise deposit, passage-money, everything, would be forfeited. When I punctually obeyed this mandate, sailors were getting in casks of water, putting last touches to the rigging, and shipping new sails that looked like nautical table-linen. The sun was shining, and there were Lascars and foreign sailors in red jackets. The clatter of tongues was very loud, and the whole had a Neapolitan air. Above, on the paddle-box, was Capt. Magregor, that favorite Captain, a surprisingly young man for a favorite Captain, but of a stout bluff build, with sandy hair and large fair face, and a very Scotch accent, in which he gave his orders. He seemed a good man of business. We knew nothing of his seamanship then. Firm, steady, and with a practical roughness, by his exertions everybody and everything was got on board; and by 10 o'clock a passenger, who had already become nautical, came into the saloon to announce that we were going to "haul out" of dock. In half an hour we had hauled out and were floating down the river.

That was rather a dismal first meeting of all the passengers in the saloon. There was an air of trouble on most faces, and every one was coming in and out uneasily of the little cellars, which were called state-rooms, "blocking" their hats as they did so. The lamps were lighted, and looked yellow and sickly enough, and were already swinging and "turning" as the vessel moved. I looked round and saw a good many of the passengers. There was a Spanish-looking actress, a wife or two of a consul, two or three commercial travelers, a couple of officers and their wives, some Frenchmen, some Germans –with, in fact, the almost unvarying elements which make up the complement of a packet bound on a long voyage. One gentleman I particularly noticed, who was taking supper with great relish by himself. He had come on board early, had established himself early in one of the best cabins, and had put everything he wanted in its "proper place." When nearly every one was like a moody and troubled spirit, going up on deck and coming down again, and poking into wrong cabins, and hurtling over unseen trunks and packages, he was perfectly and calmly at home. By 11 o'clock he had finished his supper, had read the evening paper through by a wax candle, as he would have done at his club, and had gone comfortably to bed. This gentleman's name I was curious enough to inquire, and found it was Colter, a Chancery barrister in fair practice, who had been ordered a long sea voyage to strengthen his chest and enable him the better to direct his voice at their "L'dships."

I was a fair sailor, too, and had done many long voyages; but was not so much at home as the Chancery barrister. I was painfully sensible of the discomforts of this way of traveling from the first, and awoke several times; once, indeed, by the vessel's stopping, and by that pattering of feet which follows on a vessel stopping, and with some shouting. After a few minutes, however, we moved on again, and I fell asleep.

In the morning we were tossing about in the Channel. The sea was like melted aluminium, dull and angry, and the "bark-rigged liner" rode heaving and lurching. Already the bulk of the passengers were in their misery, to the music of the "hish" of the waters, and the straining and creaking of the inside timbers. It was a dark day, too, was raining on deck, and only a bare half dozen appeared at breakfast. Capt. Robert Magregor came down himself, and sat at the head. "Stiff bit of weather to begin with," he said, cheerfully; "always the better, though, for my passengers; they get into it at once, and have it all over. I wish we had a good storm at once to try this vessel. She'd stand anything, sir. Go anywhere. Built under my own eye."

The Chancery barrister was of course there, picking out the best bits of broiled ham and eggs with his fork. I saw him well. Tall, thin, with a yellowish face, and "thin hair besprinkled spare." "Captain," he said, abruptly, "what was the stoppage last night? It awoke me. Somewhere off Gravesend, eh?"

"Yes," said the Captain, "off Gravesend it was—no small hooker came alongside with two passengers. We nearly ran 'em down; serve 'em right, too. Pretty thing, stopping a vessel in her course! And only the agent would have been making a row, and talking of the company, and perhaps stop the passage-money out of my salary, I'd have let 'em shout till they were hoarse."

"And now, Captain," said the barrister, buttering toast, with a rasping, crackling sound, "what were they like—men, women, or children?"

"A woman, Sir—a lady, I suppose, we must call her," the Captain said, with disgust. "Nice thing, isn't it, ladies coming out in hookers to stop mail-packets on the high seas?"

"And where is she now?" said the barrister, eating a fresh egg. "Breakfast in berth, eh?"

"I suppose so," said Captain Magregor, angrily. "Of course, she's sick. By Jove, the wind's freshening again," he said, rising; "this is the style of thing. It looks like a *good* storm before night."

I was left with Mr. Colter, who said: "What we would call, in an address to a jury, a rude son of Neptune, a hardy son of Ocean, eh, Sir?"

"That man," I said, "doesn't care for a single thing else in the world but his profession—a true mariner."

"I don't know that at all. I want him to contradict me. I should say he is undeveloped—that he has not had opportunity. For he is surprisingly young, you remark, though built upon old lines. The fact is, we can't say that he might not break out in any new direction, if the opening come. Now, for a cigar upon deck."

All that day the weather freshened; by dinner-time it was almost a storm, and we had less company at the table than even at breakfast. Capt. Magregor was in a great delight. His eye kindled: "After all," he said, "what is there in the world to the sea! It is everything to me: father, mother, wife and lover. Here's her health, gentlemen! Would you say as much for your professions?"

"Certainly not," said Mr. Colter, shortly. "Even if I felt it, I would not."

This all went on for a couple of days, when things began to mend. The storm abated altogether; and one morning we arose to the smoothest and most lovely weather that could be conceived. The sea was as blue and smooth as the Mediterranean at Genoa. The passengers came crawling out of their burrows, with miserable faces, but with some hope. They plucked up wonderfully, as some one remarked. In fact, at the breakfast-table, all but some children were assembled. The Captain was at the head, a little down at the loss of his stormy weather, and I and Mr. Colter near him.

"We are all here?" said the barrister; "a difference to the first day, eh Sir? By the way where's the Gravesend lady? She that woke us up out of our sleep—eh, Captain?"

The Captain answered gruffly that he did not know.

"You should have all your passengers here, Captain. No excuse such a morning as this. No breakfasting in bed—in berth I mean—it's bad for the morale of the ship."

The Scotch Captain shook himself at this.

"We'll have none of that aboard. No favor or exceptions. Here, steward! You're not to take in breakfast to any one—d'ye hear?"

"No, Sir. Only that lady in No. 20."

"Has she been ill?"

"No, Sir; she stewardess says, she had dinner yesterday there, and tea and breakfast ever since she came aboard."

The Captain almost leaped up with anger.

"This is outrageous. My orders defied by any woman. Lady or woman, it's all one. I'll have the same discipline for all. That's logic, Mr. Colter."

"And good logic, too," said that gentleman.

"Ay, ay. The ship before everything. And see, steward. Tell that lady—what's her name?——"

"Mrs. Arlington, Sir."

Mr. Colton, at hearing this name, started.

"Arlington!" he said. "Are you sure?"

"Why," said the Captain, "what's there in it?"

Mr. Colter seemed to be ashamed of having started or shown surprise.

"Nothing," he said. "There's a leading case, you know—Arlington and Hooker—very nearly the same point as the rule in Shalley's case, but out down a good deal, you know."

"Well, tell Mrs. Arlington she must be here for dinner or go without any. That's blunt; but it's the fact and truth."

The Captain went on deck.

"Now," said Mr. Colter to me, "why should that lady, who has come on board in an exceptional manner, and who has not been in the least ill (as, indeed, I found out in a very odd way, for I saw her reflected in the little skylight of my berth, and reading and working all through the storm)—why shouldn't she come in and take her meals with us—eh?"

"Well, I never thought of it in that way," I said.

At dinner that day—the fine weather still continuing—all the passengers were assembled, except one. Just as the covers were taken off, a little rustle was heard, and a tall, graceful lady stood at the door, looking down the long table as if for a place. She was very neatly cut out of the great human material—slight—was in a purple silk—had a very small face and features—soft hair, with a tiny cap. She seemed almost as shy as a girl, and about two-and-thirty years of age. The lawyer got up, and, with much bustle, caused room to be made for her opposite—near the Captain—who shook himself angrily like a Newfoundland dog.

"Expect every one to be in time on board the *Promised Land*," he said, roughly. "Can't allow any eating and drinking in the cabins. So I hope, in future, ma'am——"

She was quite composed, and answered him with a soft voice: "I beg pardon, indeed, Captain Magregor. I did not know the rules—indeed, no. But in future you will find me the most obedient of all your passengers."

"Well, I hope so," he said. "Get this lady some soup."

The barrister, who had his eye on her all this time, said to her graciously,

"Hope you have not suffered during the rough weather."

She answered softly, and with an expression of pain,

"I always suffer. I am almost always a martyr."

"Why," said the Scotch Captain, "we know that you weren't ill during the storm, for you had your meals in regularly, and this gentleman here saw you sitting up, reflected in some way on his skylight, reading away when it was blowing great guns. Now?"

She raised her eyes from her plate and turned them steadily on the barrister. He helped himself to wine—very coolly.

"You are determined to be hard upon poor me, Captain Magregor," she said. "I did not say that I *was* sick, but that I was *almost always* sick. I will even appeal to that gentleman who used reflectors to see how I employed my time.

The barrister laughed. "That's putting it very strongly against me. But if I had had such a reflector the other night, when our vessel was stopped, and mysterious passengers came on board, that would be worth something. What do you say, Captain?"

"I say it was a thing I wouldn't do again," for this lady or for any lady."

Again her eyes were studying the barrister very carefully. Then she turned to the Captain.

"Must I beg pardon again? My offences seem to be increasing every moment. I was always told that ladies on board were turned into goddesses—could rule and dictate—and that gallant seamen were only too proud to put their heads at their feet. When we made a voyage from India, in a Queen's ship, we found it so. But I suppose there is a difference in the service. The Captain was likea knight of King Arthur's, and yet one of the bravest and best seamen in the navy."

Our Captain colored up, but could not say anything. The barrister said, suddenly, as if putting a question:

"You were coming home from foreign service, you and your husband?"

She almost started, looked at him, then answered steadily, with her wonderful eyes on him:

"Well, yes, supposing we were?"

"Oh, certainly," said he, with great politeness; I have no right to put inquisitive questions."

"No more," she said, with a firm smile, "then you have to construct those reflectors of yours. Even my enemy here, Capt. Magregor, wouldn't resort to that."

The Captain was moody.

"You should say, ma'am, a Captain of a Queen's ship; which, thank God, this is not. We have our own ways here; we don't want to take pattern by Queen's ships. A Queen's ship, ma'am, can tell you, would not stop as I was fool enough to do the other night."

"No, indeed," she said, softly; "such kindness could not be expected every day."

"It must have been very perilous," continued the barrister, addressing her, "that coming on board in an open boat on a rough night. It required great courage," he said, looking round with a smile, "or great pressure and necessity. From Gravesend, I think you said," he repeated.

"Suppose it *were* Gravesend," she answered, with a smile which was not a smile of pleasure. "Would you like to hear," she went on calmly, "my birthplace, names of relations, age next birthday, and other particulars according to a census paper?"

The barrister put up his hands to his face.

"Serve me right," he said; "a capital hit—well sent home, too."

"Ah!" said she, laughing, "I wish to hit nobody, provided they do not hit me."

"At any rate," said the barrister, "I have got a lesson."

But I don't think he had. For at tea that night he came up to the table laughing. "Look here," he said, "I am incorrigible. I belong to the law. So that is my excuse. You know the challenge you gave me about a census paper? Well, I have been working my head ever since, as I should do at a brief for the Vice-Chancellor to-morrow morning. May I tell you what I have found, provided I tell you how?"

The faintest flush of uneasiness passed over that piquant face, but she hid by setting back the little cap. "Do as you please," she said, with a smile. "You know I am helpless. Capt. Magregor here, who I thought would be my protector, is turned against me; so everybody is privileged."

"No, no," said he, vaguely. "It is you who went against me about the Queen's ship."

"The dirtiest, ugliest thing that ever sailed," she said; "badly managed—badly handled, I think you call it."

"Yes," said he, "that's the word. Not kept so clean as this, I'll swear."

"No, no, indeed," she said.

"Well, that's something," he said. "Now, what are this gentleman's discoveries?"

"First," said Mr. Colter, "you are married, madam, or were married, and your husband's name is Charles H. Arlington—a Captain in Her Majesty's Ninetieth Regiment of Foot, now stationed at Chatham."

She almost started out of her seat, a strange wildness came into her eyes, with a dash of fury, as she bent over to the barrister.

"What do you mean?" said she, in a thick voice. Every one had been listening, and now turned to each other with surprise and wonder. In a moment her face had changed. She had burst into tears, and with her handkerchief to her face, she just uttered the words, "He is dead! how unkind!" and floated away out of the saloon.

Many reproachful eyes were turned on the barrister.

"Come, I say, Mr. Colter," said the Captain, who had looked after her with much compassion, "this is going a little too far, I think. A helpless woman is no match for a clever lawyer. It ain't equal, you know. Poor soul!"

"Pon my word," said the eager barrister, "I meant nothing—I really did not. It was a mere chance shot. I knew her name was Arlington. So I looked in an Army List."

The next morning when the wind had again freshened, I went up very early upon deck. It was a cool, delicious morning, and the vessel was bending through the waves with a sharp, breezy decision that is always very acceptable. It was about seven, and I was sure I should have the deck all to myself; but, to my surprise, there was the Captain leaning against the mainmast, with a lady in a little hood talking to him. I knew both lady and hood. Presently they began to walk about, and the Captain pointed out this "stay" and that rope. In all these things she seemed to take an eager interest, and, I could see, was asking all sorts of questions, which he answered very readily, and with great alacrity and pleasure. Then he came toward me and explained the compasses, and then she went to the very end of the vessel, where she stood upon the forecastle in the breeze, and looked down on the hissing waters with more courage than, perhaps, I could have done, and looked like a statute. I was leaning on the side of the vessel, looking at her in this attitude, when I heard a voice close at my ear, "A fine morning." It was Mr. Colter, the barrister.

"I thought we should have the deck nearly to ourselves," he said, and walked down toward the pair at the end. When the lady saw him coming she jumped down. She said nothing to him beyond "Good morning;" but that was said with an air of defiance.

That day the luggage "wanted on the voyage" was to be got up—a grand ceremonial of unpacking for passengers, and a remarkably busy and amusing scene. Every one got up his trunk, and got out things which he could not or would not want. Still it was an amusement, and even playthings are welcome upon a voyage. Every one was unlocking and unpacking, even the great Chancery barrister, Mr. Colter, Q. C.

At dinner we were all in great spirits. The Captain had given champagne, which was much enjoyed by the lady who sat near him. Her eyes began to sparkle, and she talked very pleasantly and with great animation. I noticed that Capt. Magregor listened with extraordinary attention to everything she said, spoke very little himself, not even a word about his beloved ship.

"We deserve this," said the barrister, gaily, "after our hard work to-day. Excellent wine it is."

"You should drink, Mr. Colter, to our full and perfect reconciliation; and promise, over Capt. Magregor's capital champagne, so kindly given, never to offend me any more. You must get rid of your animosity to me. Will you promise?"

"Certainly," he answered, merrily, "with all my heart. am deeply penitent. I feel as if I had committed contempt of court, and had been told to attend at the sitting of his Lordship to-morrow. Indeed, how could I feel anything but cordial good will to a person about whom I am beginning gradually to know everything."

"Know everything?" she said, a frown coming on her forehead. "You are beginning again. Now, I warn you!"

"Yes," said he, "but we have not drunk our champagne together yet. It is really the oddest thing. There must be some mysterious relation between us, for those things force themselves on me. Now to-day, at the luggage, I found out your house and street!"

"Champagne, ma'am!" said the waiter.

"No," she said, fiercely, "I'll not drink with you. I'll have no reconciliation."

"Pray hear me first," he said. "Stay a moment, waiter. I saw a portmanteau swung up rather roughly, (by the way, Captain, a hint to your fellows would be no harm, they are only too willing,) when the side grazed against the hold, and half tore off a card. I saw it wouldn't stay on a minute, and really with the best intentions, though you won't credit it, took it off. On the face was your name, Mrs. Arlington, written in a very pretty hand. On the back was, 'To be left at Capt. Arlington's, Grove Villa, Chatham. Seven and sixpence to pay. 11-6-63.' (You know the odd way they write that.) The very day before our vessel sailed. Obviously the trunkmaker's bill for a lock or repairs."

She almost ground her teeth and the wine shook in her hand.

"You will not stop till you get a lesson," she said, grimly. "I am not a woman to let myself be persuaded. I can do nothing myself; but if I ask other gentlemen"—and she looked at Capt. Magregor; "I am sure they will help me. Perhaps the next thing you will tell us at dinner, that you have opened my little trunk, and searched it."

"I think," said Capt. Magregor, who had been appealed to, "you might let this lady's affairs alone. If we have barristers aboard, I don't see why we need have barristers' ways. In fact, now, as Captain of this craft, I tell you plainly, Mr. Colter, I won't have it. I have authority here, and I must require you to give over prying into this lady's business, or looking into her trunks and that sort of thing."

He looked to her, whose eyes turned to him with speechless gratitude. There was a silence. Half the table heard that speech. Mr. Colter drank a little wine, then called in a clear voice to a gentleman a few pages from him:

Mr. Wilson! you were next to me to-day when a portmanteau came out of the hold with a card hanging to it. Would that card have dropped off at a touch?"

"At a touch," said Mr. Wilson.

"Did I save it from dropping back into the hold?"

"You did," said Mr. Wilson.

"Who was it first perceived that there was writing on the back?"

"I did, certainly," said Mr. Wilson. "In fact, I remarked it as the trunk came up."

"There!" said Mr. Colter, calmly. "So much for looking into this lady's trunks. As for my remark yesterday about the husband of this lady I looked, out of the merest idle curiosity, to see his rank and regiment, in an Army List——"

"An Army List!" she repeated, starting.

"Yes," he went on. "An Army List of the present month, and this is only the seventeenth, and I found it here. But that, of course, must be a printer's error (these things are edited so carelessly,) for I think we understand you to say your husband is not alive?"

"Never," she answered excitedly. "I said I was afraid he might be dead or dying, as I left him very ill."

"Then I mistook," he went on. "Now, that being so, I appeal to the company whether our excellent Captain has not traveled a little beyond what is proper, in the way he has spoken to me. Really, it seems to me a little unwarrantable! and if I was one of your people with a grievance, and were to bring the matter officially before my friend Sir Charles Robinson, Chairman of the company, he might look at it rather seriously. Now, I put it to our Captain, a brave man, and one of the best seamen going, whether he has not been a little rough with me to-day."

The Captain colored.

"Well," said he, "perhaps I spoke too strongly, and perhaps you are right, Mr. Colter. You know I have great responsibility."

The look of anger and contempt the lady gave him was beyond description. She rose at once.

"I see you have deserted me," she said, in a whisper, to the Captain. "Well, so be it. I shall go on deck, and make the wind and the sea my friends. They, indeed, are faithful."

And she passed out. In about ten minutes the Captain followed her.

Very soon the curiosity of the passengers had been excited about this lady and her doings; and I could see that the barrister's little speech had produced a marked impression. Some of the gentlemen took her part; but the ladies were, to a lady, against her.

The barrister was very pleasant on the subject.

"I have got so into the habit of putting this and that together," he said, "that really I can't help speculating, and following out my speculations in this way. Now, this lady, though I really may be putting myself in bodily risk, (for who knows how she may turn out? and she gives me such wicked looks,) is really quite like a child's puzzle to me; and positively I must put it together successfully before the voyage is out."

There was a rustle behind us, and she was standing at the top of the table. She had heard him. There was the same twitch of vexation in her mouth.

"No warnings," she said, with a smile, "will do you good. Take care; other people may be fond of puzzles too."

"Nothing can be fairer," he said, laughing.

He was walking on deck that evening, when I saw her come up to him with a very sad and bewitching face. I could hear her low voice almost pleading. As I passed close by I heard her say something about—

"Oh, so clever! with such a reputation as you!"

To which he replied:

"Oh, nonsense. You never heard of my name before, unless you had been reading conveyances and deeds all your life. No, no."

The next thing we heard was that the Captain had given up his own private cabin to the strange lady. She had come on board late, and had to put up with the worst accommodation. This inflamed all the ladies still more, but more particularly Mr. Colter, who said it was "an instance of singular partiality." That very day we saw an English brig bearing down on us with a signal of distress flying. This was welcome news to the passengers, and brought every one up from below with glasses, to share in the excitement. We slackened speed and let her come near. It turned out, after all, that she was only "short of water," which created quite an ill-feeling against the brig, and sent down most of the passengers in disgust. The Captain came aboard our vessel in his long boat, and was presently surrounded by a group asking him all manner of questions, which provided a great subject of discussion at dinner that day. After dinner, Mr. Colter said in his gay way. "While you were all talking to the Captain, I got hold of the steward, and secured a couple of English newspapers. What do you say to that? I suppose no one ever thought of that; though there is not much news, except—except—indeed——" and he kept looking up and down the columns, searching for his bit of news, "one of the usual dreadful murders," he said. "Where is it?"

As he spoke, I was made to look up by an angry and impatient rustle opposite, and there saw the eyes of the lady fixed on him with such an expression of mixed terror and agony, that I was really startled.

"At Chatham, I think it was," he said; "near to your part of the world. So you had a lucky escape, Mrs. Arlington."

She was growing pale and red by turns, her hands were grasping the table with a clutch, and she half rose to go.

"Ah, here it is!"

"What do you mean by this?" she said.

He did not affect to see her, but I saw him steal a look at her.

"Why, you are not well," said Capt. Magregor. "Take my arm and come on deck."

"You won't wait to hear the exciting details?" said Mr. Colton. "Why, I declare, it's not at Chatham after all. It was at Portsmouth. Yes, at Portsmouth. How stupid of me."

A curious expression of relief came into her face. "It was only for a moment," she said. "You know my poor husband is lying ill there, and these things happen so often."

"Ah, I see," said the Captain.

"Was the murderer a sergeant—one Ridley?" asked a passenger.

"Yes! God bless me, yes!" said Mr. Colter. "How did you find that out?"

"Why, these all happened before we left England. I read it in the Times a week before. The fellow must be hanged by this time."

"Well, well," said Mr. Colter, laying down his paper, "after that, I give it all up. I am getting stupid. I may retire from the profession."

The correcting passenger laughed and received a step in rank on the spot, in respect, from his fellow-passengers.

Meanwhile our Captain never abated in his attentions to the lady, though he grew more gloomy and moody every day. He had lost all his enthusiasm for his ship, and never talked of her in a boastful and affectionate way. On the other hand, carrying out his view of studying everything that came in his way, Mr. Colter had latterly taken great interest in the ship, and all about her, "just to fill in the time," he said. Every day at noon, when the observations were taken, he was careful to assist, and picked up the outlines of navigation in a very short time. Even the mate pronounced that he'd work the reckoning "afore to-morrow next day." This was always his way, Mr. Colter said, "because," he added, "who knows but a navigation case might be briefed to me? Last year I had a dyeing case, and I made up all the chemicals in a week." By-and-by the mate's prophecy actually came true, and Mr. Colter worked out the ship's reckoning for himself in a very satisfactory way.

The next day a great dark steamer, homeward bound, came in sight, which the Captain, eagerly getting his glass, and making the lady who stood near him look at, pronounced to be one of the Cunard vessels. As it drew near, all the passengers got out their letters, which, after a short parley, were sent on board; and it steamed away out of sight. This was a real incident, and was talked over eagerly and noisily at dinner. Mr. Colter, to whom the Captain was very cool and yet very submissive since their little discussion, quite taking the lead. "Such a mail as went on board," he said; "all of us writing home to our fathers and mothers, daughters, wives and husbands. By the way," he went on gaily, and with his eye on the lady, "I didn't see you give a contribution, not a line, to that poor husband in the barracks at home, sitting in his bare room, coming back from their dull mess."

She colored, and again that fierce contortion of impatience came into her face. "How do you know?" she said. "Is the next thing to be that I am to show you all my letters before I post them?"

"God forbid," he answered, laughing, "if I had to read or look at ladies' long letters. No, no, Mrs. Arlington, only, as I always tell you, you are quite a study to me." He laughed again. "But come now;" he went on, half addressing those near him, "I did remark that Mrs. Arlington missed the post, or did not know there was a mail going, and thus lost such an opportunity of writing to her husband. It was very unlucky."

Some of the passengers looked one at the other, for by this time—and really in part owing to these hints of the barrister—a sort of mystery of suspicion began to get among them about this lady. There was nothing to do, monotony was beginning to set in, so that even a little suspicion was welcome. This little fact, therefore, started so innocently by Mr. Colter, was taken up readily, and speculated over very often. And the looks of fury and secret hostility that naturally came into her face—as I surprised her often looking at "her persecutor"—were remarkable. Really he was carrying it all too far. But he never seemed to tire of it. A little passage that took place between them a couple of mornings later "intrigued" us all yet more.

"I am hungry this morning," he began, addressing the company as usual, "and do you knew who is the reason? No one would guess, I am sure. Mrs. Arlington, you are the reason I am hungry. What is this fried collops? Yes, Mrs. A. is the reason." Again she was in great confusion. The ladies' eyes were upon her. "Now for the explanation. Mrs. Arlington spilt some of my chocolate this morning. I think you did it on purpose. The steward was carrying it in (I always have it at home, and I must say the lad makes it nearly as well as my own man,) and Mrs. Arlington here ran against him. spilt some of it, and the poor boy brought it in afterward to my cabin, and wanted to know should he make more. Of course, I said no. But I didn't even take what was left."

The public were a little disappointed at this story, which they could not follow. The only thing they enjoyed was her really helpless state of confusion and terror. And after that morning the impression still more evidently prevailed that there was something very odd about the strange lady. Later we all knew the signification of this chocolate story.

Meanwhile her conversations with the Captain increased. That Scotch young seaman seemed to be losing gradually all his heartiness. To Mr. Colter he was civil, but moody and distant. It was remarked that the lady used to get up very early now, and was sometime found by a curious passenger sitting, at perhaps seven in the morning, with the Captain.

The Promised Land had now been some seven or eight days out, and with fair weather. We were all getting tolerably well shaken down into the ship, as Mr. Colter said. This eighth day was remarkably fine, with a bright sun out, and the one or two always sick passengers came creeping out of their berths to get a little fresh air and sun. Poor souls! Every one was happy, but the only curious thing was the behavior of the Captain, who all the day long had his powerful double-glasses to his eyes, searching the horizon far and near. This at first was not attended to; but as he continued anxiously at this all the day, even sending men to the mast-head, and keeping a little boy there till he nearly fell off, people began to wonder and then to ask. The first to take notice was Mr. Colter. "Not looking for land, surely?" he said, with a smile. "I make up a reckoning with the mate, and we are in latitude so and so."

The Captain answered him roughly: "I can look through my glasses, I suppose, without having to give an account of myself, Mr. Colter? We leave our witness-boxes at home on board this ship." And walked away down to the cabin to the lady; then came up and spoke to the man at the wheel. It was now about 5 o'clock, and time for dinner. Mr. Colter, who was very friendly with the mate, and talked with him a good deal about the ship and her handling, now walked over to take a look at the binnacle before going down. "Why, look here, Cobbett," he said, "we're taking a bend out of our course. Eh? What d'ye say?"

"Yes, we are, Sir," said the Mate. "What's this, Jim?"

"Cap'en bid me keep a quarter-point or so to nor'ard," said the steersman."

"Very odd," said Mr. Colter.

"I don't know what's coming over the cap'en," said Cobbett, thoughtfully. "I think," he added cautiously, "he's now after one of the Haver liners (so he pronounced it) for New-York, which we should meet about here. That's what's at the bottom of it, Sir. I suspect he wants news, or something."

"Oh, indeed," said Mr. Colter, and went down to dinner. At this meal the Captain and lady were both restless, and spoke little. Mr. Colter was cheerful. When it was nearly done, a steward's boy came in, and whispered to the Captain, who got up hastily, and went on deck. This motion excited curiosity. What could it be?

After dessert had been put on, Mr. Colter, wiping his mouth with his napkin, said gaily, "I really must see what it is all about."

"Ah, you may see and see again," said Mrs. Arlington, with extraordinary fierceness, "but you will not find out much, or be able to *interfere* much *now*."

"I?" said he, good humoredly. "Not I, indeed. But a little walk on deck can do no harm." He went up, and presently many followed, for curiosity is stronger than wine.

The evening and the half darkness had come on. The skylights over the saloon looked like gorgeous illuminated globes. The sea was fresh, and cool, and blue, and the moon, seeming to be out a little before its time, was shining. Many faces were looking out to the one point where there was a black patch, and a twinkling red and green light growing larger every moment. Many fingers pointed it out to each other. "See the Havre packet!" said Cobbett, coming up to Mr. Colter, "we're out of our course by three hours. Nigh on forty mile. Only think! Of course it's his affair, and he'll see what the owners will say."

The Captain was on his paddle-box, giving orders.

"We're going at full speed, you see," said the mate. "She's a faster boat, and won't lie by for us. The French skipper knows his dooty to his company."

"Oh, I see," said Mr. Colter. "Where's Mrs. Arlington?"

She was in her cabin. By-and-by some boxes were coming up from the hold. Presently she herself came up, dressed in her shawls and cloaks, and with all her baskets and packages. "I see," said Mr. Colter again.

"Perhaps you do," she said, "but not for much longer. I am going at last to be set free from your insolent and unmanly persecutions. This kind Captain is going to put me on board that vessel which is bound for New-York."

By this time a knot of leading passengers had gathered round, listening with wonder. We were gradually drawing nearer to the vessel. The Captain was coming down from his paddle-box with triumph.

"We shall overhaul her yet," he said. "They have seen our signals. They are getting out the boat so as to have it ready. They have stopped at last."

He was turning to go, when Mr. Colter, suddenly changing his habitual jocular manner, said: "Just a word with you, Captain, before you move in this matter."

He took him by the arm, and led him away down to the end of the vessel, the Captain going sulkily. Mrs. Arlington was very restless during this interview, but she looked very often toward the dark French ship.

In a moment they both came back. The Captain was very excited.

"I'll not have it done to you, sir. You should be ashamed of yourself. I shan't move in the business or listen to such calumnies."

"Brave and gallant protector," she said, taking the Captain's hand. "I knew I had a friend in you who would stand by me."

"Then you force me to appeal to the passengers, and to them I shall appeal."

"You would not be so cowardly—so cruel," she said, half imploringly.

"I shall tell them what I know and can prove as soon as we touch land. I shall tell them that this woman——"

"Tell what you like," said the Captain, doggedly. "Here's the vessel, and go on board she shall."

In fact we were now drifting up beside the great black figure of the French steamer breathing and blowing off the steam like a tired horse. The men were in the boat, and the trunks were about being swung over the side.

"Well, then," said Mr. Colter, "if you won't listen to reason, I shall go too. New-York will be very pleasant, and we have an extradition treaty with that country."

There was a pause. The two stood looking at each other, the lady trembling and breathing hard. The voice of the French Captain was heard through a speaking-trumpet.

"Well, then," said she, with a sort of dreadful smile, "since you are so positive in the matter, I suppose you must have your way. I am very sorry to have given these foreign gentlemen all this trouble; but it is better to submit than to have a scene. I shall never be able, Mr. Colter, to repay you for all your intrusive kindness."

She hurried down again to her cabin, but her last look at the barrister was one no one could forget.

The vessel was put on her old course.

For some days more the voyage continued. Still the lady did not come into the cabin for meals. "I have given her leave," said the Captain, ferociously. "I suppose I have that power aboard my own ship, and I'd like to see the man that will dispute it."

"So should I," said Mr. Colter, smiling. "Poor Jack would be laid in irons, and properly so. The law gives you full power, Cap'en, to a certain extent. We must all support the law, Cap'en. The legal theory is that the deck of every English vessel is a portion of the British soil."

The Captain answered nothing. It was the last day. We were to be off the coast by evening. By evening we were off the coast, near a tongue of land and a lighthouse; but it was nearly dark. Passengers were all in excitement. A splash of oars were heard alongside, and the customs officers, some green-looking men in brigand hats, came on board. They went through the usual business. To our surprise we heard Mr. Colter talking in what was apparently excellent Spanish, with the leader of the party. The leader was very obsequious and touched his hat often. Mr. Colter gave him a letter as the boat went away—two were left behind in charge of the vessel.

Mr. Colter was literally now regarded as a man of mysterious power.

About 9 that night (we were all to land in the morning) another boat was heard coming alongside, and a gentleman came up the side, who in English asked the Captain to see Mr. Colter. The Captain asked his business a little gruffly. "I am the Consul here," said the other.

Mr. Colter, who was smoking, came up. The consul took off his hat. "I hope Lord Boxminster is well," he said, obsequiously. "His lordship wrote to me by the last mail. We shall do everything we can for you, Mr. Colter. Would you like to come ashore to-night and sleep on dry land—at an hotel? I can manage that."

"Well, then, do you know, I should," said Mr. Colter, gaily. "I have, however, a few little things to put together first."

"Hope you enjoyed the voyage," said the Consul.

"Well I did, since you ask me," he answered. "It has really been like Westminster Hall all the way. I suppose you can give me half an hour?"

Half an hour after that he came into the saloon muffled up to go. I and the Captain were the only people there. "Good-bye," said Mr. Colter, good humoredly, "for the present. It seems a little invidious my being the only one allowed to go ashore, but I shall be back in the morning. Good-bye."

"And what legacy do you leave behind?" said a woman's voice close by. We looked up, and saw flashing eyes, and distorted features, and a quivering lip.

"Good gracious!" said Mr. Colter.

"What legacy? I say," she repeated; "a noble, manly and chivalrous one! You a gentleman? No; I will tell you what you are—a miserable spy, a common detective! God forgive you."

"Whp.

"What strange language!" said Mr. Colter, looking round.

"If I was a low creature I would curse you," she went on, in a fury; "I would pray—as I will pray to-night—that the boat which takes you to shore may open and sink to the bottom. You mean, unworthy spy, you! You mouchard, you! You crawling, creeping, sneaking spy; this is the dirty work you love! Curse you, I say!"

"What language!" said Mr. Colter, not in the least disturbed.

"What have I done to you? Why did you fasten on me from the beginning of the voyage—a poor woman that did you no harm—tell me that—eh?"

Mr. Colter suddenly became grave. (It was a curious and most excitting scene; the yellow oil lamps of the saloon playing on her face.)

"Since you ask me," he said, "I shall tell you—something, at least. Young William Arlington, your husband—that was—"

"Was?" she repeated, faltering.

"—was the son of a very dear friend of mine. I know something of his history—how he foolish boy had been entrapped into a marriage at Boulougne with a sort of half French woman that no one knew anything of, and about whom there were strange rumors. Now, Mrs. Arlington?"

"False, false—every word of it," she said furiously."

"We shall see," he said, gathering up his coats and shawls. "I shall not appear much more in this business. Others will look after it. Sorry no one else is allowed on shere. Good night all.

She gave a half shriek and shook her hand at him.

"May that boat of yours sink you, sink you, sink——"

She stopped herself, and rushed back into her cabin, for stray passengers were looking out in wonder. I could not for a long while get rid of the dreadful idea of her appearance as I saw her then.

In the morning—a beautiful bright morning—we saw the fine gorgeous coast quite clear. But, to my astonishment, there were police in the Spanish dress on the deck, talking with the Captain, who was very excited. And the English Consul was there too. The passengers were all gathered on the deck, and whispering.

At last the Captain went down and two of the officers. He came up in a moment with a wild, scared face.

She was in her cabin, but it was fast locked. No one had seen her. No one could see her, or ever did see her again. That deadly look given to Mr. Colter proved to be the last look she gave to mortal man. When the anxious Captain had at last, her cabin door forced, she was found lying in her birth quite dead and cold, and the ship's doctor pronounced that she had died of poison.

When the English newspapers got out to the Brazils we all heard of the dreadful Chatham murder of a young officer who had married a half French milliner against the wishes of his family.

The murdress, the papers said, had got away—it was believed in a Brazilian packet—but hoped, according to their favorite phrase, that "the officers of justice would soon be on her track."

Mr. Colter made the return voyage successfully, and much improved in his health, and is now the well-known Sergeant Colter, who stands next for Solicitor-General.

A NIGHT IN A LONDON WORKHOUSE.

NUMBER II.

From the Pall-mall Gazette.

It was about 9:30 when, having made myself as comfortable as circumstances permitted, I closed my eyes in the desperate hope that I might fall asleep, and so escape from the horrors with which I was surrounded. "At 7 to-morrow morning the bell will ring," Daddy had informed me, "and then you will give up your ticket and get back your bundle." Between that time and the present full nine long hours had to wear away.

But I was speedily convinced that, at least for the present, sleep was impossible. The young fellow (one of the three who lay in one bed, with their feet to m head) whom my bread had refreshed, presently swore with frightful imprecations that he was now going to have a smoke; and immediately put his threat into execution. Thereupon his bedfellows sat up and lit their pipes too. But oh! if they had only smoked—if they had not taken such an unfortunate fancy to spit at the leg of a crank distant a few inches from my head, how much misery and apprehension would have been spared me. To make matters worse they united with this American practice an Eastern one; as they smoked they related little autobiographical anecdotes—so abominable that three or four decent men who lay at the further end of the shed were so provoked that they threatened, unless the talk abated in filthiness, to get up and stop it by main force. Instantly, the voice of every blackguard in the room was ra

came in overnight he wore a black hat, which added a certain look of respectability to a worn suit of black. Altogether his clothes had been delivered up to him by Daddy; but now he was seen hopping disconsolately about the place on his crutch, for the hat was missing. He was a timid man, with a mild voice; and whenever he asked some ruffian "whether he had seen such a thing as a black hat," and got his answer, he invariably said, "Thank you," which was regarded as very amusing. At last one sidled up to him with a grin, and showing about three square inches of some fluffy substance, said, "Is this anything like wot you're lost, guv'ner?" The cripple inspected it. "That's the rim of it!" he said. "What a shame!" and hobbled off with tears in his eyes.

Full three-quarters of an hour of loitering and shivering, and then came the taskmaster—a soldierly-looking man over six feet high, with quick, gray eyes, in which "No trifling" appeared as distinctly as a notice against trespassing on a wayside board. He came in among us, and the gray eyes made out our number in a moment. "Out into the yard, all of you!" he cried; and we went out in a mob. There we shivered for some twenty minutes longer, and then a baker's man appeared with a great wooden tray piled up with just such slices of bread as we had received overnight. The tray was consigned to an able-bodied casual who took his place with the taskmaster at the shed door, and then in single file we reentered the shed, each man and boy receiving a slice as he passed in. Pitying, as I suppose, my unaccustomed look, Mr. Taskmaster gave me a slice and a large piece over.

The bread devoured, a clamor for "skilley" began. The rumor had got abroad that this morning, and on all future mornings, there would be skilley at breakfast, and "Skilley! skilley!" resounded through the shed. No one had hinted that it was not forthcoming, but skilley seems to be thought an extraordinary concession, and after waiting only a few minutes for it they attacked the taskmaster in the fiercest manner. They called him thief, sneak, and crawler. Little boys blackguarded him in gutter language, and looking him in the face consigned him to hell without flinching. He never uttered a word in reply, or showed a sign of impatience; and whenever he was obliged to speak it was quite without temper.

There was a loud "hooray!" when the longed-for skilley appeared in two pails, in one of which floated a small tin saucepan, with a stick thrust into its handle, by way of a ladle. Yellow pint basins were provided for our use, and large iron spoons. "Range round the walls!" the taskmaster shouted. We obeyed with the utmost alacrity; and then what I should judge to be about three-fourths of a pint of gruel was handed to each of us as we stood. I was glad to get mine, because the basin that contained it was warm and my hands were numb with cold. I tasted a spoonful, as in duty bound, and wondered more than ever at the esteem in which it was held by my *confrères*. It was a weak decoction of oatmeal and water, bitter, and without even a pinch of salt to flavor it—that I could discover. But it was hot, and on that account, perhaps, was so highly relished that I had no difficulty in persuading one of the decent men to accept my share.

It was now past 8 o'clock, and, as I knew that a certain quantity of labor had to be performed by each man before he was allowed to go his way, I was anxious to begin. The labor was to be "crank" labor. The "cranks" are a series of iron bars extending across the width of the shed, penetrating through the wall, and working a flour mill on the other side. Turning the "crank" is like turning a windlass. The task is not a severe one. Four measures of corn (bushels they were called—but that is doubtful) have to be ground every morning by the night's batch of casuals. Close up to the ceiling hangs a bell connected with the machinery; and as each measure is ground the bell rings, so that the grinders may know how they are going on. But the genders are so lazy as obscene. We were no sooner set to work than the taskmaster left us to our own sweet will, with nothing to restrain its exercise but an occasional visit from the miller, a weakly expostulating man. Once or twice he came in and said mildly, "Now, then, my men, why don't you stick to it?" and so went out again.

The result of this laxity of overseeing would have disgusted me at any time, and was intensely disgusting then. At least one-half the gang kept their hands from the crank whenever the miller was absent, and betook themselves to their private amusements and pursuits. Some sprawled upon the beds and smoked; some engaged themselves and their friends in tailoring, and one turned hair-cutter to the whole party, a gentleman who, unlike KAY, had not just come out of prison. There were three tailors—two of them on the beds mending their coats, and the other operationg on a recumbent friend in the rearward part of his clothing. Where the needles came from I do not know; but for the thread they used a strand of the oakum (evidently easy to deal with) which the boys were picking in the corners. Other loungers strolled about with their hands in their pockets, discussing the topics of the day, and playing practical jokes on the industrious few; a favorite joke being to take a bit of rag, anoint it with grease from the crank axles, and clap it unexpectedly over somebody's eye.

The consequence of all this was that the cranks went round at a very slow rate, and now and then stopped altogether. Then the miller came in: the loungers rose from their couches, the tailors ceased stitching, the smokers dropped their pipes, and every fellow was at his post. The cranks spun round furiously again, the miller's expostulation being drowned amid a shout of "Slap bang, here we are again!" or this extemporised chorus:

"We'll hang up the miller on a sour apple tree,
We'll hang up the miller on a sour apple tree,
We'll hang up the miller on a sour apple tree,
And then go grinding on,
Glory, glory, Hallelujah," &c.

By such ditties the ruffians enlivened their short spell of work. Short indeed! The miller departed, and within a minute afterwards beds were reoccupied, pipes lit, and tailoring resumed. So the game continued—the honest fellows sweating at the cranks, and anxious to get the work done and go out and look for more profitable labor, and the paupers by profession taking matters quite easy. I am convinced that had the work been properly superintended the four measures of corn might have been ground in the space of an hour and a half. As it was, when the little bell had tinkled for the fourth time, and the yard-gate was opened, and we were free to depart, the clock had struck eleven.

I had seen the show—gladly I escaped into the open streets. The sun shone brightly on my ragged, disreputable figure, and showed its squalor with startling distinctness; but within all was rejoicing. A few yards and then I was blessed with the sight of that same vehicle—waiting for me in the spot where I had parted from it fourteen weary hours before. Did you observe, Mr. Editor, with what alacrity I jumped in? I have a vivid recollection of you, Sir, sitting there with an easy patience, lounging through your *Times*, and oh! so detestably clean to look at! But, though I resented your smile, I was grateful for the sight of a familiar face, and for that draught of sherry which you considerately brought for me, a welcome refreshment after so many weary waking hours of fasting.

And now I have come to the end, I remember many little incidents which escaped me in writing the previous articles. I ought to have told you of two quiet elderly gentlemen who, amid all the blackguardism that went on around, held a discussion on the merits of the English language—one of the disputants showing an especial admiration for the word "kindle"—"fine old Saxon word as ever was coined." Then there were some childish games of "first and last letters," to vary such entertainments as that of the Swearing Club. I should also have mentioned that on the dissolution of the Swearing Club, a game at "dumb motions" was started, which presently led to some talk concerning deaf and dumb people, and their method of conversing with each other by means of finger signs; as well as to a little story that sounded strangely enough coming from the mouth of the most efficient member of the club. A good memory for details enables me to repeat this story almost, if not quite, exactly. "They are a rummy lot, them deaf and dumb," said the story-teller. "I was at the workhouse at Stepney when I was a young 'un, don't you know; and when I got a holiday I used to go and see my old woman as lived in the borough. Well, one day a woman as was in the house sees to me, sez she, 'Don't you go past the Deaf and Dumb School as you goes home?' So I sez 'Yes.' So sez she, 'Would you mind callin' there and takin' a message to my little gal as is in there, deaf and dumb?' So I sez 'No.' Well, I goes and they lets me in, and I tells the message and they shows me the kid what it was for. Pooty little gal! So they tells her the message and then she begins making orts and crosses like on her hands. 'What's she a doin' that for?' I sez. 'She's a talkin' to you,' sez they. 'Oh,' I sez, 'what's she talkin' about?' 'She says you're a good boy for comin' and tellin' her about her mother, and she loves you.' Blessed if I could help laughin'! So I sez, 'There ain't no call for her to say that.' Pooty little a kid she was! I stayed there a goodish bit, and walked about the garden with her, and what d'ye think? Presently she takes a fancy for some of my jacket buttons—brass uns they was, with the name of the 'house' on 'em—and I cuts four on 'em off and gives her. Well, when I give her them, blow me if she didn't want one of the brass buckles off my shoes. Well, you mightn't think it, but I gave her that too." "Didn't yer get into a row when you got back?" some listener asked. "Rather! Got kep without dinner and walloped as well, as I wouldn't tell what I'd done with 'em. Then they was a goin' to wallop me again, so I thought I'd cheek it out; so I up and told the master all about it." "And got it wuss!" "No, I didn't. The master give me new buttons and a buckle without saying another word, and my dinner along with my supper as well."

The moral of all this I leave to you. It seems necessary to say something about it, for the report which Mr. Farnall made after visiting Lambeth Workhouse on Saturday seems meant to suggest an idea that what has been described here is merely an irregularity. So it may be, but an irregularity which consigned some *forty men* to such a den on the night when somebody happened to be there to see, is probably a frequent one; and it certainly is infamous. And then as to the other workhouses? Mr. Farnall was in ignorance of what was done at Lambeth in this way, and I selected it for a visit quite at random. Does he know what goes on in other workhouses? If he is inclined to inquire, I may, perhaps, be able to assist the investigation by this hint: my companions had a discussion during the night as to the respective merits of the various workhouses; and the general verdict was that those of Tottenham and Poplar were the worst in London. It is true, as I heard it stated, that at one of these workhouses the casual sleeps on bare boards, without a bed of any sort.

THE RUSSO-AMERICAN TELEGRAPH.

Interesting Report of Col. Bulkley—The Route Adopted and the Work Progressing.

The Secretary of the Western Union Telegraph Company, Col. PALMER, has just received from San Francisco the detailed report of Col. BULKLEY, the Engineer-in-Chief of the Russian Telegraph Expedition. The Rochester *Union* is permitted to publish the report as a matter of great interest to the stockholders and to the public, looking with anxiety to the progress of the work of uniting by telegraph the two continents. With the report are complete maps made by Col. BULKLEY, showing the route surveyed and the location of the points named.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18, 1865.

Since my last report, dated at Victoria, our ships have been engaged in transporting material, supplies and parties for exploration of the country through which our lines will pass on both continents, examining harbors and coast lines, locating cable crossings, and so far as possible determining the route of these lines. Mr. CONWAY, in charge of the Fraser River division, has been delayed in building, owing to late arrival of material, but has finished 450 miles of line. I believe that the exploration committed to him, with the establishment of depots and distribution of supplies, have been fully and satisfactorily completed. In a brief message he states that "up to 57 degrees north latitude there is nothing to prevent building line."

The rendezvous of our vessels at Sitka was necessary, in order to distribute supplies, which were in the *Clara Bell*; also to divide and dispatch our parties for their destinations. The far advanced Summer left no other course, and in order to examine the most northern points myself, I determined to take the steamer *George S. Wright* and assist the other vessels, having us far as possible, at the same time furnishing them orders in regard to future movements, in case we should accidentally be separated or I should designedly leave them.

Mr. KENNICOTT, dividing his party, will explore the country between the Kvichpak, in lat. 65 deg. north, and the head of Norton Sound; at the same time push his little steamer up the river until stopped by ice; then with dogs and sledges reach Fort Yukon, and penetrate to the southward, forming a junction with the British American explorations.

To insure his safety in this last work, I ordered Mr. CONWAY to establish a depot on Babini Lake, which is done. At St. Michaels we found reliable testimony in regard to Kvichpak and Yukon being the same river, and a large navigable stream, filled with islands. Sand bars block the channel in many places to all except light draft boats, but this was probably observed in only one of the many passages in which this great river winds through the islands in its course.

From evidence since received, it is certain that the most southern mouth of this river has an entrance with ten feet of water on the bar; and every thing indicates the existence of still better channels through which such a large volume of water must be emptied into Behring Sea. From St. Michaels the Russians go in its most northern mouth with boats drawing four feet. Large quantities of drift wood come down with its current, landing on the shore of Behring Sea and Norton Sound, furnishing the trading post of St. Michaels with their only fuel.

This part of Russian America is low and rolling, but in the south are high mountains, spurs of the great coast range that stands like a wall on the whole coast, following the peninsula of Alaska and forming the Aleutien Islands. North of this island chain Behring sea is filled with alluvian poured into it by the rivers, making it comparatively shallow, while the southern side falls abruptly into the depths of the Pacific Ocean. The harbor of St. Michaels exposed to the north and easterly gales from that quarter. The coast northward is low, rolling, and without timber up to Cape Nome; west of this, precipitous, but not high, which continues to near the entrance of Port Clarence.

This fine bay has a good entrance, with ten fathoms of water and sand bottom. Opening into its eastern side is Grantley Harbor, smaller in extent and completely landlocked, proving a good landing for our cable, and the only practicable and safe one on the American side of Behring Straits. The country is of the same general character as that bounding Norton Sound on the east, without timber, and covered with a heavy growth of moss thrown up by the frost in large bunchy masses; below this the earth is thawed about ten inches and beneath frozen solid. Small stunted bushes, bearing berries like wild currants and whortleberries, are the only approaches to trees in this region.

St. Lawrence and Mechigme Bays, on the Asiatic coast, proved unsafe for our purpose; shoal water and exposure to southeast gales driving ice-packs in deep masses on the shores would destroy any cable; both bays were full of old ice, which extended in broken lines 6m miles at sea, and through which we worked our vessels with considerable difficulty. Senivin Strait offers all the protection necessary, with good bottom, deep water and safe landing in Penkegu Gulf or Abolesher Bay, and from this straight to Grantley Harbor, the bottom of Behring Strait is mud, sand and gravel, averaging about thirty fathoms in depth, and distance between proposed landings one hundred and seventy-eight miles. The Siberian side is more mountainous, without timber, and but little moss, except in the valleys The great masses of syenite that rise in sharp, rough outline at their summits are torn and pushed by the congealing water in every direction until the avalanche of rock comes thundering down to the valley, and lays a gentle slope against the mountain side, and in this way these mountains are sinking to hills and the masses crumbling to atoms in the intense cold. Valleys wind between them, sometimes partially filled with this debris, but through which we find passage for our land line. The ground is thawed to an average depth of three feet, probably owing to the absence of the thick moss covering of the American side.

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This is a good harbor, bounded by mountains, with deep water and mud bottom. The coast line west rises in perpendicular cliffs with serrated and ragged outline, and no available harbor east of Cape Spanbers. The harbor that we find directly west of this cape has its entrance between perpendicular cliffs, but at its head a good beach slopes into the water, with low rolling country stretching to the eastward. In the distance north, high mountain ranges covered with snow show their rugged outline. A sand and mud bottom, with water averaging about thirty fathoms in depth, continues across Anadyr Bay to the mouth of Anadyr River, and there is a good landing in the bay near Cape Observation, well protected from ice.

The schooner *Milton Badger* was here, having landed Mr. MCRAE and party, who were engaged in preparing for Winter. It being too late for boat explorations of the river, they will commence with reindeer as soon as the snow falls in sufficient quantity. Three hundred of these animals were on the ground, belonging to the Indians in the vicinity, with whom arrangements were made for transportation. Mr. MCRAE will proceed to Anadysk, about three days' journey, and thence towards the head of Guljinsk Gulf, or until communicating with Mr. ABASA, to whom he is ordered to report. While at this boat I ascended the river to about thirty miles above Cape Tolstoi and found a fine navigable stream, with low banks, and the country in the distance gently undulating, and without timber. The waters at this point ebb and flow with the tides of Behring Sea; but the indications are that the islands on the banks have a set of about ten feet, which leave considerable drift-wood of large size for this northern region. Some of the logs observed were more than twelve inches in diameter. The Indians report timber above, and represent the river crooked, with strong currents and rocks some distance up. From Cape St. Baris westward the coast is low, rolling, and covered with moss, and thawed to two feet in depth. Low, scrubby pines and alder, not over three feet in height, grow in sheltered places. On the 10th of October new ice was making so fast that we were obliged to leave the river, and on the following day large falls were climbing on its edges and lying there above water, curiously watching us. Snow had already covered the ground, and it was possible that Mr. MCREA would soon commence his Winter explorations.

At noon on the 14th, the sun was seventeen degrees above the horizon, and for the first three days of passage southward ice was continually forming on the ship's sides and decks.

The coast from Anadyr River southward, so far as we were able to examine it in snow-squalls, was very mountainous and offering no inducement to look for another cable landing, and one too that would increase the distance; besides the interior route via the river will avoid these coast mountains.

The proposed cable route across Anadyr Bay is two hundred and nine miles, which can only be avoided by building a land line north, and crossing the Gulf of St. Croix. That coast is a most inhospitable region from Cape Behring I could see rough snow-covered ranges stretching far toward the head of the bay on the eastern shore, but the western is not so high and broken.

We arrived at Petropouleki Oct. 21, and found the *Golden Gate* lying in the harbor. Mr. ABASA and one of his party started from this place late in August, moving northward through the peninsula of Kamstchatka, intending to arrive at the mouth of Ghyinak Bay in time for snow travel toward Anadyak or westward, as his connection with MCRAE may decide. Finding the subordinate officials ready and willing to assist, without positive orders from the Governor of Eastern Siberia at the mouth of Amoor River, he has chosen the proper course to expedite his work, and is pushing forward with commendable energy and a determination to succeed, that astonishes his countrymen. From information received, he reports the head of Ghyinak Bay a good harbor for the year with timber near, surrounding country well timbered with fir, and the best class of ice sooner than Penkegu Gulf. It is said that high and impassable mountains bound the Okhotsk Sea on the west between Okhotsk and Port Alan, extending far inland, and so precipitous on the coast that even the narrow Winter trail cannot be carried along the base.

The Russian government, however, proposes to build a postal road along the coast, connecting Nikolaevsk and Alan with Okotsk, which does not confirm the previous statement in regard to this country. It is the character of the people from whom Mr. ABASA derived his information to find insurmountable obstacles in comparative trifles. There is an inland route from Okhotsk toward Yakoutsk which will avoid the coast mountains and reach the Amoor River a considerable distance above its mouth, and which has advantages, provided we are allowed to connect with the Russian lines at any point we may reach them.

Ordering the *Golden Gate* direct to San Francisco, we sailed with steamer on Nov. 1, intending to cross the Pacific well north in short longitude, and go southward through the Straits of Queen Charlotte Archipelago to Victoria; but after eighteen days' trial in violent gales, with ship somewhat damaged, we reluctantly turned our prow southward and arrived in this port Nov. 29.

Light snow commenced at Petropauiski Oct. 29, and ice was forming in small inner harbor, but none in the magnificent bay of Avatcha, which is seldom entirely closed in the winter.

The most northern regions through which our lines will pass present no serious obstacles, neither in the construction nor successful operation of telegraphs. The submarine crossings will have the advantage of even and soft bottom with safe landing and cables not so long as to make their performance doubtful. The land lines firmly planted in the frozen earth will stand as if mortised in rock; no timber to fall across, nor sleets to weigh the wires, they will stretch over the frozen desolation unharmed and unmolested; besides with reindeer and dogs the Winter watching will be comparatively easy.

The Behring Straits crossed is one hundred and seventy-eight and Anadyr Bay two hundred and nine nautical miles between landings, with water of such depth that icebergs alone could injure the cable; these are unknown in Behring's Straits or south of it; the northward currents preventing any drift of deep masses south; even when the surface current is changed by strong north winds, the lower water still moves northward.

It has been argued by some that the terrific gales of high latitude opposed insuperable difficulty in keeping up lines; they are not fabulous, yet no more violent than the gales of your temperate zone. The Esquimaux builds his insecure skin-tent on the most exposed place, so that the sea will blow away from it, and there it stands, his shelter and home through all the blasts of the long Winter. I have seen no Esquimaux on the Asiatic side inhabiting underground Winter houses, as of old; the excavations and ruins remain, but the people are gone long since, and the present races occupy the ground with their deer-skin habitations.

The Indians of the seacoast are misrepresented; we found them friendly, honest and exceedingly hospitable, never manifesting on any occasion, nor about any of our vessels, the least disposition to steal; but they beg, thinking, probably, that the white man, who has so much, can freely give. These people can be made useful with proper management; more so in the future than in the beginning of our work.

Game is abundant during the Summer, especially water fowl, and the Indians catch considerable quantities of salmon. Reindeer, rabbits, grouse and foxes, (the three last white) seemed plentiful, also seal and walruses.

Reindeer are used for beasts of burden on the coast, and in the interior of northeastern Siberia, in Russian America, dogs alone. With these animals some of our short island transportation must be accomplished during the Winter, especially that over the thick moss-covered region. We intend to use every available means of water transportation, and locate our lines as far as possible to favor the plan.

To supply material and stores to parties on both continents during next Summer, two more sailing vessels will be necessary and another steamer of greater capacity and power than the *Wright*, especially if it is decided to lay the cable in many places to all except light draft boats, but this was probably observed in only one of the many passages in which this great river winds through the islands in its course.

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OBITUARY.

Death of Hon. John G. Davis, of Indiana.

From the Terre Haute Journal, Jan. 19.

In yesterday's *Journal* we announced that our neighbor, Hon. JOHN G. DAVIS, had an attack of paralysis and was not expected to recover. He rallied, notwithstanding, on Wednesday night, and even at 6 o'clock yesterday morning hopes were entertained of his recovery. He had another attack, however, after that hour, and before 7 o'clock he expired.

Mr. DAVIS was a native of Fleming County, Ky., but moved with his parents, (who were natives of the eastern shore of Maryland,) to Parke County before he was out of his teens. Here he had attained his majority he was elected Sheriff of his adopted county, and after filling that office one term he was elected clerk, which office he held through all the mutations of party for the long period of twenty-one years. He was one of the finest clerks in the State, and we recollect distinctly that, in 1840, when the Whig party had a majority of the county, we advocated his claims to reelection, in the Wabash *Courier*, although he was an avowed Democrat, on the ground that the office was merely ministerial, and that men of all parties were interested in securing the services of an officer so competent and well versed in its duties.

In 1850 Mr. DAVIS was elected to Congress, in which body he served four years with more than ordinary distinction. With little leisure or opportunity for the study of politics or literature during a life of constant preoccupation in business pursuits, his success as a speaker and politician astonishes his most intimate friends, and is a most striking exemplification of the natural vigor of his character and the energy of his mind. Before he became a candidate for Congress he had no opportunity to practice or study the graces of elocution; for, unlike most candidates for that branch of the government, he never ran before for any legislative office. As a member of Congress he exercised considerable influence, and made himself felt by his industry in collecting facts, and his ever ready use of them in the conflicts of debate. In everything he undertook Mr. DAVIS appeared to be preeminently successful, and has left behind him, as the fruits of his energy and enterprise, an ample fortune for the support of his devoted wife, daughter and two sons, who are left to lament the death of a most devoted husband and father. He was in his fifty-sixth year, and but for the paralytic attack which shattered his system two years ago might, from the natural vigor of his constitution, have lived to an advanced age.

His stricken and afflicted family have the heartfelt sympathy of a wide circle of friends in their bereavement.

Col. Judah.

The Plattsburg (N. Y.) *Republican* has the following particulars of the last sickness of Col. JUDAH:

"He had been seriously ill for some weeks, of what was called disease of the heart, but his indomitable courage and determination to live, kept him up for days, even after friends and physicians had decided that there was no hope of his recovery. And in the feverish and restless hours of semi-consciousness he would shout to his command to 'advance,' 'charge,' &c., with a full and clear articulation; and then the fatal fainting and fatal weakness would supervene, and he finally passed away to his rest. Col. JUDAH, after graduating from West Point, was stationed in Platts. burg for a term of years, leaving here for the West in 1852. While among us he won hosts of friends by his genial and social qualities. He drafted the by-laws of the Odd Fellows' Society of this village, of which order he was an active and intelligent member; soon afterward became a member of Clinton Lodge and Platteburg Chapter Free and Accepted Masons. On the 16th inst. his remains (in charge of his brother, SUTHERLAND JUDAH) were taken to Westport, Conn.,

for interment, escorted to the Ferry, by the men in the fields of Clinton Lodge, and by a company of the 4th Infantry from the United States barracks here."

Harrington King.

Mr. BARRINGTON KING, of Roswell, Ga., died on Wednesday night, Jan. 19, from injuries received by the kicking of a vicious horse, which the deceased had been riding.

Mr. KING was widely known South and North as the proprietor of the Roswell Cotton Mills, an institution which, before and during the war was conducted with great skill and success. At the time the sad accident occurred, the deceased was actively engaged in repairing and refitting the mills for active operations on a scale at least equal to their former magnitude. He was a gentleman highly esteemed by all who knew him, as well for his enterprise as for his benevolence.

Dr. S. W. S. Dutton.

The telegraph has announced the death of Rev. S. W. S. DUTTON, D. D. Dr. DUTTON was born in Guilford, in the year 1814. He was fitted for college under the teaching of his father, Rev. AARON DUTTON, and graduated with high honor in 1833. After his graduation he was employed for a time as a teacher in an institution in Baltimore, then was rector of the Hopkins Grammar School in this city, and was tutor in Yale College from 1836 to 1838. He was ordained Pastor of the North Church, June 27, 1838. His ministry was a successful one, and was honored and blessed with successive revivals of religion. In the conclusion of a discourse on his twenty-five years' pastorate, delivered July 5, 1863, he said: "We have entered on another quarter of a century. Who of us will see its end? Few of those who are beyond the middle of life. For myself I know that the sun has passed the meridian. My life-shadow, which I have been accustomed to see stretching toward the west, has shortened and turned, and now extends toward the east; and it lengthens as I go. But I do not regret this. Rather do I rejoice at it; for it indicates my approach to a higher and more perfect service of Him to whom I long to devote all my being. May He, till I come to that more perfect ministry, make me patient, faithful and successful." To this ministry he is now called, and this whole community have been witnesses of the patience and faithfulness which have fitted him to enter upon it.

CONNECTICUT.

The Approaching Conventions—Republican Candidates for Governor—Aspirants for Other Positions—County Wire-pulling—The Democratic Slate, etc., etc.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

HARTFORD, Conn., Thursday, Feb. 1, 1866.

We anticipate a very exciting political campaign in this State this Spring. The conventions of both parties have already been called—the Republican to meet on the 14th inst., and the Democratic one week earlier. You know that Connecticut is, so to speak, a very close State, though last year a majority of over eleven thousand was rolled up for Gov. BUCKINGHAM, who is by all odds the most popular man in the State, or, at any rate, has been, and, last year, the entire soldiers' vote was concentrat d upon him. But he has now determined to accept no further gubernatorial honors, and a new man must be taken up, who, with the strongest pressure to bear in his favor, must inevitably have "a hard road to travel." Disguise it as we will there is certainly a division in the Republican ranks; though not open and avowed, it has existence, and there is a strong under-current at work to obtain control of the convention.

Some facts here may be of interest. About two months ago Hon. HENRY B. HARRISON, of New-Haven, was the most prominent candidate excepting, possibly, Hon. ROGER AVERILL, of Danbury, at present Lieutenant-Governor. A meeting of gentlemen representing the conservative portion of the party, was held in New-Haven to "talk the matter up," and, desiring to conciliate the radicals, more haste than wisdom was displayed. Without even intimating to Mr. HARRISON or Gov. AVERILL what was going on, they proceeded to mark out the slate by placing at the head of the ticket Gen. JOSEPH R. HAWLEY, of this city, who has a good war record, and is a man of fair ability, but is noted chiefly for his life-long adhesion to extreme political views. He graduated from the office of JOHN HOOKER, an abolitionist of thirty or forty years' standing. At a subsequent meeting the gentlemen referred to, having assembled in Hartford, decided finally that HAWLEY should be the man, and *then* were magnanimous enough to inform Mr. HARRISON of the fact, who, finding he was left out in the cold, made the best of it by writing a letter, which was published, declining himself to be a candidate, and warmly commending Gen. HAWLEY. But, though Mr. HARRISON and some of his friends were apparently conciliated, the friends of Gov. AVERILL could not see the force of the argument presented in the same light, and they are to-day, in all parts of the State, working vigorously to secure the attendance of delegates at the convention who will break up the HAWLEY slate. There is no doubt that they will be a power in the convention, and, unless some unexpected revolution of sentiment occurs, they will stand a fair chance of being successful.

Gov. AVERILL, previous to the breaking out of the war, was a Democrat; but when the alarm of battle was given, he cut loose at once from his party associates, and was welcomed to a place on the Union ticket with Gov. BUCKINGHAM, not alone because of his patriotism and ability, but in recognition of that large class of patriotic Democrats who followed his lead. The question of ignoring him at the present time is, therefore, one which very naturally excites the fervor and the jealousy also of his friends to a great degree; and it is, besides, an important question to be considered by the whole Republican party of the State. There are men who do not believe in policy or expediency in political management, and there are some of this kind in Connecticut; but the result of the election is of little, and it may be of great importance; and unless policy regulates to some extent the nominations, there might as well be first as last a sale of the effects to the Democratic managers, who stand ready to resort to all manner of dodges, and to avail themselves of any advantages, to secure control of the State. The convention will need to move cautiously, or its work will prove abortive.

In fashioning the balance of the ticket, the question of residence and locality will govern; for, though Connecticut is not larger than a first-class Western county, more jealousy exists here with regard to sections than in the biggest States of the Union. Experience and ability are lost sight of entirely in the anxiety to "do justice" by Podunk and Bankhamsted, "who have never had an office given them." Thus already have the local politicians commenced figuring. Each county has from one to half a dozen candidates for the minor positions on the ticket; though, until it is settled who shall be put in nomination for Governor, the chances of this one or that one can only be computed by guess-work. If Gen. HAWLEY is accepted by the convention, Hon. JOHN T. WAITE, of Norwich, who formerly acted with the Democracy, will undoubtedly be nominated for Lieutenant-Governor. Should Gov. AVERILL succeed, Hon. DAVID GALLUP, of Plainfield, would probably be placed second upon the ticket. C. A. ATKINS, Esq., of Mansfield, Pollard County, is most prominently named for Comptroller, and DAVID B. BOOTH, Esq., of Danbury, Fairfield County, is thus far ahead for Secretary of State. For Treasurer, Hon. ROBBINS BATTELL, of Norfolk, Litchfield County, is talked of, though there are a number of "available candidates" for the position.

The Democrats are moving very stealthily, and outside of the "chosen few," nothing is known of their intentions. They have tried all the SEYMOURS in the State, from THOMAS H. down to VIRGIN S., and will probably permit that family to rest in peace hereafter. It would be unkind to carry the mourners any further in that direction. Hon. JAMES E. ENGLISH, of New-Haven, formerly member of Congress, is the *best* man, though I don't know that he keeps in line with them now. He voted for the Constitutional Amendment abolishing slavery, and at that time was looked upon suspiciously by the faithful; yet, if he would accept a nomination, I have no doubt the party would be glad to give it to him. Consistency never stands in the way of Democratic engineering. Hon. LORIN P. WALDO, of this city, is, however, likely to be the successful man. He was prominent in the convention last year, because of the refusal of the Legislature to continue him as a Judge of the Superior Court, on account of his political views. There will be a sufficient number of stereotyped candidates for the other positions on the ticket.

As the political wheel rolls on I will observe its evolutions, and from time to time gather such facts as may be of interest, and embody them as you request in semi-occasional letters to the TIMES.

CHARTER OAK.

Grand Promenade Concert at Norwalk.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

NORWALK, Conn., Friday, Jan. 26, 1866.

The grand promenade concert of the Bridgeport United Service Club, for the purpose of raising funds toward the erection of a suitable monument to commemorate the death of the heroes from this town who fell in the late sanguinary conflict for the Union, passed off last evening at Franklin Hall, in this city, with unusual *éclat*, notwithstanding the disagreeable condition of the weather.

A series of three grand concerts, in aid of different causes in connection with the soldiers, are now being held throughout the principal towns of this State, and are receiving the enthusiastic support of all patriotic people.

All that art and skill combined could accomplish, under the supervision of competent artists and by the aid of the exquisite taste of the ladies in decorating the hall had been done. From the chandeliers

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, SUNDAY, FEB. 4, 1866.

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NEWS OF THE DAY.

CONGRESS.

The Senate was not in session yesterday.

In the House, a bill was introduced providing for the repair and improvement of certain harbors on Lake Erie; referred to the Committee on Commerce. The bill making appropriations for the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Departments of the government, for the year ending June 30, 1867, was made the special order for Monday. The House passed the bill providing that persons in the naval service of the United States, who have lost one foot and one hand in the line of their duty, shall be allowed the same pensions as to persons in the military service who have suffered similar losses. The House then proceeded to the consideration of the bill to enlarge the powers of the Freedmen's Bureau. It was discussed at length and with much sharpness. A brief evening session was held, but no action was taken on the bill under consideration.

STATE LEGISLATURE.

In the Senate yesterday a bill was reported providing for the restoration of securities held by insurance departments deposited by life insurance companies organized in other States. The bill extending the time for the collection of taxes throughout the State until the 1st of April was passed to a third reading. This bill does not apply to cities where taxes are collected under the special law amending the general insurance law by limiting any one risk taken by a company to 10 per cent. of its paid up capital, notwithstanding the company may reinsure the same property.

In the Assembly a bill was reported fixing the salary of the City Judge of Brooklyn at $5,000. A bill was noticed authorizing New-York Central Railroad to subscribe $2,000,000 for the construction of a railroad between Athens, Greene County, and Newburgh, completing the connection of the New-York Central between Buffalo and New-York on the west side of the Hudson River. A bill was introduced to diminish crimes and facilitate prosecutions; also a bill to amend the Militia Enrollment Act, making those who have been officers during the late war supernumeraries; also, to regulate the use of docks at the foot of Broome-street, New-York; also, to provide for the appointment of a Supreme Court reporter, and the publication of decisions.

GENERAL NEWS.

From the Rio Grande later and satisfactory intelligence is received in regard to Gen. WEITZEL's action in the Bagdad affair. He has addressed a letter to the Adjutant-General of the Department of Texas, in which he reviews the late protest of the merchants and foreign consuls at Matamoras against the conduct of the United States troops. He charges them with aiding the rebels during the war by furnishing large quantities of arms and ammunition. He disavows all connection with the capture and pillage of Bagdad, and says that all persons identified or engaged in that proceeding have been arrested, and a commission is now in session to make a thorough investigation of the whole affair. Some of the One Hundred and Eighteenth colored infantry being implicated, the order mustering out the regiment has been annulled until the report of the commission has been made.

A letter from Gov. MORTON, dated at Paris, Jan. 3, has been published. He says: "We arrived in Liverpool on the 24th of December, after a stormy and uncomfortable passage of eleven days. I was sick from the first to the last day, at one time not leaving my berth for four days, and when landed, was very weak indeed; but I am much better and stronger again, although the condition of my limbs is not improved or materially changed. The physicians here have decided that I must submit to the 'moxa,' which is burning upon the back with fire, and the operation is to be performed to-morrow. I write this by the hand of my son, as my arms are so much affected that I hold the pen with difficulty."

There are two daily papers at Denver and two more in the mountain region. The section in which umber is found in Colorado has twenty-five saw mills, and ten flour mills have been set up within the past few years. The quartz mills in the State are counted at over one hundred and fifty, costing $40,000,000. They should average, if all were running on medium ores, not less than $23,000,000 per year. Wages rule at $5 per day. Mr. LOVELAND, a resident of Golden City, is soon to erect a blast furnace and rolling mill at that point. The mill is to turn out rails for the road that is to be constructed between Denver and the towns of Central and Empire, passing through Golden City, and probably furnishing one of the many links in the overland railway to the Pacific.

One year ago Miss MARTHA BALDWIN, a graduate of Baldwin University, at Berea, Ohio, was elected to fill the chair of Professorship of the Greek and Latin languages in the Baker University, Kansas, which was chartered in the Winter of 1857, and has been in active operation seven years. It is an institution attended by both sexes, and Miss BALDWIN has been the sole occupant of the chair above stated, and is said to have given entire satisfaction during the collegiate year which has closed.

In other columns will be found a full report of the argument on behalf of the stockholders in the New-York bank tax cases, now pending in the United States Supreme Court at Washington. The result in these cases will be most important to the States and to the nation, involving as it will the taxation or non-taxation, by the States generally, of $404,159,408 of National Bank stocks in the banks of the country, and by New-York particularly, of the amount thereof in the banks of the State—$115,217,941. The further argument will be given as the case progresses.

Gen. HENRY H. SIBLEY, says the St. Paul *Press*, has determined to remove permanently to New-York City, having already made arrangements to embark in business there. Gen. SIBLEY has spent his whole life in the Northwest, beginning as an Indian trader. He was the first delegate to Congress from Minnesota, 1849–53, and first Governor of the State, 1857–59. Since the Spring of 1863 he has been in the military service, conducting expeditions against hostile Indians.

A Mr. HOUSTON, of Mercer County, Ohio, a member of the Mahoning congregation of the United States Presbyterian Church, was lately cited to appear before the Presbytery to answer the charge of having voted for VALLANDIGHAM as Governor of the State—"a man notorious for disloyalty, and under sentence of banishment by the government." He was found guilty and suspended from the privileges of the church. The Synod, at its recent session, sustained the action of the Presbytery.

The great Cincinnati bridge about to be suspended across the Ohio River will be the longest in the world, being over 2,000 feet longer than the Suspension Bridge over the Niagara River, and 540 feet longer than the Menai Bridge in England. Its total span will be 1,057 yards. The massive stone piers tower 110 feet over the floor of the bridge, and 200 feet above their foundations. One year is the period allowed for building it.

"TIP" PRENTISS, son of Major-Gen. B. M. PRENTISS, left Quincy, Ill., recently, on skates, with a dispatch for Lagrange, 14 miles above, and made the run up in 50 minutes. He remained there 30 minutes, and then started on his return, and ran down in 55 minutes, having made the round trip of 28 miles in an hour and 45 minutes, running time, and been out only two hours and a quarter.

The schooner *Neptune*, with forty-four Southern emigrants bound for Brazil, went ashore on the 4th, on the coast of Cuba twenty-six miles from Havana, the vessel striking against a projecting rock. The passengers and crew were all saved. Some made their way to Havana, whence some went to Mexico, some returned to Florida and some to Alabama. The colonists intend to renew their effort to reach the South American land of promise.

There are nine establishments in Massachusetts for the manufacture of spool cotton, three in Bristol County, four in Essex, and one each in Hampden and Plymouth. The value of stock used, and of spool cotton made, capital invested and hands employed, for the year ending on the 1st of May, 1864, was as follows: Stock used, $865,538; value of cotton made, $1,336,093; capital invested, $990,500; hands employed, 867.

The Rochester *Union* learns that a leading grain, produce and apple dealer in Ontario County suddenly closed business recently at Canandaigua, and left for parts unknown. His liabilities are variously reported at from $50,000 to $100,000. Since his departure, bank paper to the amount of $14,000 has turned up, bearing the name of the father-in-law of the party, which the latter asserts is a forgery.

The total number of the graduates of West Point who were in the regular army at the commencement of the war was 820. Of this number 197 resigned and joined the South, leaving 621 loyal graduates who remained in arms for the Union, of which number no less than 138, or nearly as many as those who resigned, were natives of the Southern States.

There are in operation in Windham and New-London Counties, Conn., fifty-seven cotton mills, having a capacity of 426,881 spindles and 8,094 looms. During the last year the said mills manufactured into goods 20,485,540 pounds of raw cotton. There are now in the course of erection six new mills that are to have a capacity of 112,468 spindles and 2,872 looms.

The Macon (Georgia) *Messenger* says two-thirds of the freedmen in that part of the South are disposed to go to work, but as a general rule they are opposed to hiring out to their former masters. They wish to swap plantations, as that gives them a sense of having secured their freedom not otherwise attainable.

A gentleman from Texas informs the Atlanta *Intelligencer* that it is not known what has become of Senator WIGFALL. It is considered certain that he has not crossed into Mexico, and if in the United States his location is a secret. Many believe that he is dead.

Judge MCNEILL's house in Iriquois County, Ill., was struck by lightning on the 19th, and some of the occupants seriously injured. The fluid traversed the building in three distinct lines, converging at the lightning-rod, the point of which was melted off.

Seven persons escaped from Sing Sing on Saturday morning, by means of false keys. Four keepers were on duty in the halls through which they passed. Four or five other criminals have escaped from the prison within a very brief period.

Considerable excitement prevails in Cass, Jackson, and Lafayette Counties, Kansas, on account of the threatened organization of the old bush-whackers to attempt the rescue of some of their number now in jail.

It is known that Gen. ROBERT TOOMBS is in Havana. A letter from him to a friend announces to him that he has abundant means, having exported and sold considerable cotton.

The commissary and quartermaster warehouses at Fort Riley, Kansas, were burned on Wednesday. The loss is estimated at a million of dollars. Nothing was saved.

LOCAL NEWS.

CHARLES HARRINGTON was arrested at a late hour on Thursday night, by Officer FRAUSSEN, of the Twenty-eighth Precinct, charged with shooting a night scavenger, named JOHN HERZ, in Canal-street. Subsequently another officer found HENRY CURWIN, second officer of the steamer *Manhattan*, who shot a coal-passer on the 23d ult. in self-defence, staggering about, and suffering from the effects of a ball lodged in his skull. An ante-mortem examination was yesterday held by Coroner WILDEY, when it was shown that the shooting in both cases had been committed by HARRINGTON, and it was charged that the shooting of CURWIN, the mate, was intentional and the shooting of HERZ accidental. It is supposed that HARRINGTON, who was a friend of the deceased fireman, was actuated by a spirit of revenge. CURWIN now lies in a critical condition at the New-York Hospital, while HERZ is in the House of Detention for Witnesses. HARRINGTON will be held to await the result of CURWIN's injuries.

The case of CHAS. H. COLES, a prisoner in Fort Lafayette, and reported to be one of the Lake Erie pirates, was up again yesterday in the Supreme Court Chambers before Justice SUTHERLAND. Maj.-Gen. HOOKER made an amended return which was duly traversed by the counsel for the petitioner. There being an issue of fact thus made, the Court said the only way was to refer it for the purpose of taking proofs. By consent of the respective counsel, Mr. BREWSTER was appointed referee, who is to hear testimony on Wednesday next and make his report to the Court as soon thereafter as possible. The further hearing before the Court was adjourned to next Saturday.

During Friday afternoon Mr. STEWART filed affidavits before Justice DOWLING, of the Tombs Police Court, against RICHARD T. COLBURN, New-York correspondent, and Mr. GEORGE KNAPP, one of the proprietors of the *Missouri Republican*, the former for writing and the latter for publishing an article which is alleged to be libellous and defamatory to the character of Mr. STEWART. Warrants were issued for the arrest of the two persons above named, and they were locked up in the 9th Precinct Station-House. Yesterday morning both the accused appeared before the Court and gave bail to await further examination. It is stated that several more libel suits are on the tapis against several correspondents of the Western press.

A convention of school trustees met in School No. 4 last evening, and resolved that a committee of seven—one from each district—wait upon the President and Clerk of the Board of Education and get them to have the bill now before the Legislature so amended as not to abridge the powers of trustees except in cases of dereliction of duty. Messrs. AIKEN, TOOKER, BOOTH, SLOAT, RYAN, DIAMOND and LYON were appointed on the committee, and the meeting adjourned.

MARY ANN WHEELER, alias Catharine Simmons, and a boy named GEORGE GARRISON, were arrested yesterday charged with stealing a diamond pin valued at $750 from HERMAN MARCUS, of No. 22 John-street. They were caught in the act, the woman attempting to place the jewel back where it was lying to avoid an arrest. Both the prisoners were committed for examination.

The General Term of the Supreme Court, composed of G. G. BARNARD, P. J., and INGRAHAM and CLERKE, J. J., met yesterday, and after rendering a few decisions, adjourned to Monday the 19th inst., at 10 A. M., at which time there will be rendered some highly important decisions—at least it is so understood by the Bar and the reporters.

From a report made by the contractors for cleaning the streets, it appears that the occupants of of 10,042 houses in this city are in the habit of throwing ashes and other refuse into the streets. The residents of the Seventeenth Ward appear to be the greatest offenders.

HOUSES TO LET AND FOR SALE.—We would caution our readers against giving way to a feeling of panic on the subject of houses and rents. There are a large number of dwellings for sale in various localities. These will not be sold in the majority of cases, and will be offered to tenants in a month or so. Landlords are putting up rents without cause or justification, and will be losers in the long run, as we shall take future occasion to show them. Let the people wait.

Our Revenue System—The Inequalities of Taxation.

The report of the special commission on our revenue system is the most important financial document which has appeared for a long time, and is in our view remarkably able and progressive. There is in the report a certain clearness and freedom from bad rhetoric, and a frankness with reference to the errors of our system, and the frauds committed upon us, which we do not remember ever to have seen to the same degree in a public report from our financial authorities. The review of the British and French revenue systems is exceedingly well done, and should be read by all persons interested in this vital question of taxation. The enormous increase of wealth in Great Britain during the last four years is rightly traced to the constant removal of the antiquated burdens on trade and production, and the natural resources of the island.

"It thus appeared (they state) that the duties on the foreign imports of Great Britain were a great tax on the home producer; the high price both of raw materials and of food helping to swell the cost of manufactures, and thus benefitting the foreign competitor. 'A nation of manufacturers can only subsist as they sell their produce, and they can sell their produce only as they sell it cheap. But the ability to sell their produce cheaply implies a cheap command of the raw material and of the workman's food; to tax these is to decree the nation's ruin, and involve all classes alike in bankruptcy and pauperism.'

This was the argument of the Manchester party in 1840, and it speedily came to be the creed of the nation. The policy of protection to agriculture yielded at last, and the revenue system was subordinated to the more important end of creating national wealth. All duties burdensome to the manufacturer were repealed, both in the nature of customs and excise, the policy being to enable the British producer to apply the largest amount of home labor to the smallest value in foreign staples, under conditions which enable him to put his product into foreign markets at the lowest possible cost.

This principle is the key to British free trade, and it is claimed to be of universal applicability; but it may be gravely questioned whether it is not protection in a more subtle form. Such is the opinion of M. BLOCK, a modern French economist of eminence, who classes under protective measures the freeing of raw materials and of food from customs duties."

The "opinion of M. BLOCK" may be very valuable, but the nature of this "protection" is clear to all common eyes. It is, as they say, "to enable the producer to apply the largest amount of home labor to the smallest value in foreign staples," under conditions which enable him to sell at the cheapest possible rate in foreign markets.

That is, the wealth of the world has poured into Great Britain because, owing to untrammeled trade, she could produce the most cheaply.

The commission see plainly what has been growing clearer each day to the eyes of the public, that, in our hastily-constructed revenue system, the very opposite policy has been pursued to the British; that is, that "the important end of creating national wealth" has been "subordinated to revenue" and protection. Their great aim in this long and able report is to show that this vicious system is eating out the vitals of our national wealth. They are hopeless of any fall in prices while this duplication of taxes and the weight of burdens on the raw materials of manufacture continue. They state that every industrial product now pays to the government from eight to fifteen per cent., and even as high as twenty per cent. Many branches of industry, they assert, cannot live under such burdens. Such a system threatens "a decrease of production and consumption, and, consequently, of wealth, a restriction of exportations and of commerce."

"A good illustration of this principle" they state, 'and of the working of the revenue laws in respect to the same, drawn from one of the many statements of experience submitted to the commission, is presented in the manufacture of umbrellas and parasols, as carried on in the cities of New-York and Philadelphia. It was formerly the practice of umbrella-makers to manufacture the main constituents of their products as one business; but now the business of an umbrella manufacturer is rather to assemble the various constituents of an umbrella or parasol, which are made separately and in different parts of the country. Thus, for example, the sticks, when of wood, are made in Philadelphia and in Connecticut; part of native and part of foreign wood, on which last a duty may have been paid. If the supporting-rod is of iron or steel, it is the product of still another establishment. In like manner the handles of carved wood, bone or ivory; the brass runners, the tips, the elastic band, the rubber of which the band is composed, the silk tassels, the buttons, and the cover of silk, gingham or alpaca, are all distinct products of manufacture, and each of these constituents, if of domestic production, pays a tax when sold of six per cent. ad valorem, or its equivalent. The umbrella manufacturer now aggregates all these constituent parts previously taxed into a finished product, and then pays six per centum on the whole. It is, therefore, evident that under the present excise system, all the parts of the umbrella are taxed at least twice, and in some instances three times, thus adding from twelve to fifteen per cent. to the cost of the umbrella direct; while we may feel certain, moreover, that each separate manufacturer makes the payment of the six per cent. tax on his special product an occasion for adding one to three per cent. additional to its cost price. In some instances known to the commission, this addition thus made by the manufacturer, by reason of the payment of his general manufacturing tax, has amounted to over six per cent.

Again, all civilized nations have always agreed that knowledge ought to be the least taxed, and that everything which would weigh upon public education should be removed, and yet they report that

"In the case of books, pamphlets, &c., a tax imposed on which being a tax upon knowledge, can only be justified on the grounds of imperative necessity, it is claimed that, including licenses and income tax, the finished book and its constituent materials pay from twelve to fifteen distinct taxes before it reaches the reader. Every separate item that enters into the book—paper, cloth, boards, glue, thread, gold-leaf, leather and type material—pays from 3 to 6 per cent. in the first instance, and then 5 per cent. on the whole combined; and this not upon the cost of the manufactured article, but upon the price at which it is sold."

And they quote from a circular of a leading member of the trade, that

"In England, books, paper, &c., are specially exempted from taxation. Here there is a duty of thirty-five per cent. on sized book-papers, and an internal revenue tax equal to about eleven per cent. on books, including the tax on paper and on the difference between the cost and the wholesale price; while the duty on imported books is only twenty-five per cent. With all these odds against us, the English manufacturer should be able to pay his duties and land his books in New-York or Boston at about one-half the price we can make them here, to wit: his paper costs him only one-third what paper costs here, his labor and materials less than one-half, while we pay an amount about equal to his duties in internal revenue; even more, for he invoices his goods at cost, or nearly so, sending them to his own house here, while our tax is upon every separate item that enters into the book. * * * * * * * An average book would, perhaps, take one pound of paper.

This in America now costs	80 cents.
Other material, say	10 cents.
Labor	13 cents.
11 per cent. internal revenue tax	7¼ cents.
Total cost in United States	55¼ cents.
Paper in England	10 cents.
Other material	5 cents.
Labor	6 cents.
Tariff	5¼ cents.
Total cost of English books deliv'd here	26¼ cents.

Again:

"On cotton fabrics the tax now levied and collected ranges, according to the quality of the goods, from 9 to 14 cents per pound.

On refined sugars, the tax on gross sales, by reason of an inequality of adjustment between the tariff and the excise, is now claimed to be nearly equivalent to all the additional value conferred upon them in refining by all the labor employed therein. Other articles, such as wagons, locomotives, &c., might equally well be cited as illustrations."

To show the effects of such a system, they state that in the single matter of umbrellas and parasols, imported articles, with the original cost, duty, freight and charges paid in gold, have been sold at auction in New-York and Brooklyn for a less price than the American article can be manufactured, and that the whole business, involving a capital of $2,000,000, and employing the labor of some 5,000 persons, is threatened with utter destruction.

As an instance of the effect of the taxes on books, they relate that the one peculiar product of American industry, *Webster's Spelling Book*, is now being produced in large quantities in London for the use of American schools.

"Another striking illustration of the necessity for the equalization and adjustment of the tariff and the Internal Revenue Act, is afforded in the case of Manilla rope. By the present Tariff Act, Manilla hemp, imported direct from Manilla, is charged with a duty of $25 per ton; and when imported from Europe, an additional duty of 10 per cent., ad valorem; amounting to between $15 and $25 per ton, according to its cost in Europe, making, in such case, the whole duty amount to from $40 to $50 per ton. On the other hand, the duty on imported or Manilla rope is only 2½ cents per pound, or $56 per ton. By the Internal Revenue Act, the tax on the manufacture of cordage is fixed at 6 per cent. on the market value, which at the present time amounts to about 1½ cents per pound, or over $33 per ton. It seems evident, therefore, that while the American manufacturers of cordage are paying a duty on hemp imported directly, of $58 per ton, (and when imported indirectly, of $73 per ton;) and while the only duty on imported rope is but $56 per ton, that not only are they without protection, but that there is a difference in the taxation against them, and in favor of foreign manufacturers, which must result most injuriously to this branch of business. We need only add that under this state of things, the importations of Manilla cordage from Europe seem to be rapidly increasing."

These facts are certainly sufficient to show where the individual expenses and household "leakages" go now. We can see clearly enough why it costs so much to live. Here is a revenue system which is utterly destroying some branches of business; which lays a duplication of taxes, amounting in some cases even to *one-fifth* of the value of the article, which favors protective duties to the people who are the consumers, quadruples the price of other articles and pours wealth into the pockets of a favored few; a system which in its minuteness and inquisitorial character descends to taxing "a milliner" whose name is mentioned, *one dollar and four cents!* and a dressmaker, one dollar and twenty cents, raising from the scant means of twenty-four women engaged in various branches of making clothing, in one of our wards, $49 23!

We will not here enter into the question of the improvements recommended by the commission. A little greater frankness from them in regard to certain very heavy duties, which are weighing on our agricultural and commercial community, would have been wise. Still a great public service has been done by them, and the principles of reform they have enunciated are sound and progressive.

The Monitor System Abroad.

A late number of the London *Engineer* gives us the unexpected information that the English Admiralty are about to commence the construction of a large iron turret-ship, from their "own plans." It is pretty plain what "own plans" means. It means that as near as our English friends can venture to copy it, they will appropriate the invention of Brother Jonathan. The article, it is true, mentions the name of Capt. COLES, in connection with the proposed turret; but we fancy that the dapper Captain is content to enjoy his pension in quiet on the Isle of Wight, and leave the Admiralty to introduce the American turret.

This information is rather startling in some respects, since the London *Times* has repeatedly said of late that "the monitors cannot go to sea." It is true that that journal has so often gone out of its way to introduce, by the most ingenious parentheses, the assertion aforesaid, that some suspicion as to its faith in its own stout asseverations began to creep upon us. And, in truth, the simple historical facts about the American monitors have at length established themselves, and are beginning to find advocates, even in England. As opposed to the assertions of the London *Times* that the monitors cannot go to sea, the whole world knows that they have cruised along the entire American coast, at all times, in all seasons, and through all sorts of weather, as the operations against the whole Southern coast-line, from Richmond to Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah and Mobile, will testify. The official reports of Admiral PORTER and Commodore ROGERS tell the whole story on this point. The *Monadnock* and *Canonicus* have lately exchanged salutes with the Morro at Havana, while the former—a ship of less than one-quarter the size of the *Warrior*, and less than one-half of the *Warrior's* draft of water, but carrying thicker armor from stem to stern, and a battery of which, as experiments prove, one broadside would open huge chasms in the *Warrior's* thinly plated sides—is already 3,000 miles on her way to the Pacific. Official accounts already received from her show conclusively that, though but about two feet out of water, she possesses sea-going qualities far superior to those of the gigantic *Warrior*.

We can begin to believe, accordingly, that, when the English shall have perceived that the only remaining one of their string of original objections against the monitors—that of unseaworthiness—is summarily silenced by facts, that they will begin to understand that they have constructed a vast fleet on erroneous principles, whose only use is to neutralize NAPOLEON's pitching and rolling *Gloires*. It must be a bitter pill for Mr. E. J. REED, (who so kindly copied the overhang principle which protects the screw and the balanced rudder of our monitors, in the *Bellerophon*, which is the only large iron-clad in the British Navy which can be safely steered in harbors and narrow passages without the use of tugs,) to observe the sea-going qualities of the monitors. That gentleman, the chief constructor of the English Navy, repeatedly took particular pains, in public lectures and in print, to pooh-pooh and ridicule the notion that the American monitor could go to sea, though he quite as particularly avoided committing himself by giving the reason why. We wonder if Mr. REED is to have a hand in the new turret vessel on the Admiralty's "own plans." If so, we hope he will not spoil it, as he is likely to, by building it according to traditional notions, high out of water.

The fact is, that the objections originally urged against the monitors at the start have given way entirely, except it be the extraordinary one that they could not carry sand-forts by assault! Indeed, strange as it may appear, their most lucid advocate in professional circles has turned out to be an Englishman—no less an authority than the eminent engineer, J. SCOTT RUSSELL, who, in his great work on naval architecture, just published in London, says, tersely and pointedly, "it is beyond doubt that the American monitor class is a kind of vessel that can be made *fast, shot-proof* and *seaworthy*." What other attributes an iron-clad is expected to possess we are at a loss to determine. If there are any others, Mr. SCOTT RUSSELL states them; and we are strongly inclined to think that that gentleman is among those most interested in the success of that approximation toward the genuine monitor, which the Admiralty now contemplates.

A Remarkable Revival—Gov. Wise.

Ex-Gen. and Ex-Gov. WISE, the hero of Roanoke, lately made a public address in Richmond, nominally in behalf of the very worthy charity in that city known as the Female Orphan Asylum. The cause was intrinsically so good that one would have supposed even this knight of the hustings would have intermitted, in deference to that cause, his usual feverish style of political oratory. But no. With a folly which does not become the less extensive nor the more excusable by being characteristic, he persisted in dragging out in his speech the old issues which have maddened North and South for five years, and whose fervor was only quenched in rivers of blood. He exorcised the spirit of secession, and hung that millstone about the cause of the orphans, which no doubt he honestly thought he was benefiting. He drew a mournful picture of the restored Union:

Crime is rampant all around these innocents. Their land is the corpse of its past. They have no past and no country. None have a country who have no home.

"Alas, poor country! It cannot
Be called our country, but our grave."

Not content with a discouraging view of the future, he defended the old argument for secession. He "exultingly claimed" that the soldiers of "the great Confederate cause" were "the noblest bands of men who ever fought or who ever fell in the annals of war." They obeyed their "State sovereignties," and thought it was lawful to take up arms under their mandates (i. e., the orders of the State,) authorized expressly by the Federal Constitution to repel invasion or to suppress insurrection." To fill out this absurd and exploded argument, Gen. WISE had to prove that the action of the government was either "invasion" or "insurrection," and accordingly he declares the action of the government an invasion. The Southern States, he says, "have been invaded until every blade of grass has been trodden down, until every sanctuary of temple, and fane, and altar, and home has been profaned." Divest this, and much more of the same import, of its hyperbole and tautology, and how incorrect and dangerous a sentiment does it inculcate upon either orphans or the teachers of orphans, with regard to the action of our government against the rebellious States.

Again, of the insurgent army, he says, it was "unconquerable save by starvation, blockade, overwhelming numbers, foreign dupes and mercenaries, Yankeedom, negrodom and death." It may, perhaps, be thought by the Richmond people a little hypercritical, but it strikes us that this language is not particularly in good taste, as descriptive of the government which sanctioned the generous treaty made at Appomattox Court-House. We are very sure it is not the proper language to use, nor the proper spirit to cultivate, when every nerve should be strained to restore the harmony of the elder days of the Republic. And it comes particularly inappropriate from a man like HENRY A. WISE, who ought to recognize that if he had been effectually prevented from ever speaking in public again at all, it would have been no act of superlative harshness. We are sorry he uses clemency to so ill a purpose.

But, not content with stirring up the spirit of his auditors with a long rehearsal of the engagements of the war, he adds of the supporters of the rebellion: "Alas! I am alive and here, and am bound, at every hazard, to declare that those men were no rebels, and no traitors. Let whoever will swear that they were rebels and traitors, I will contradict the oath, and appeal to God on the Holy of Holies as high as Heaven's throne." He says the words "rebellion" and "treason" are "foul and false profanations;" with much more of the same sort, which we cannot have space or patience to quote, but which the reader will find set forth in the usual repository of such productions, the New-York *News*, under the heading of "Eloquent Address of Ex-Gov. WISE."

One would have supposed that since the cause of the orphans was one appealing to common humanity and was no question of politics, rebellion or secession, Gov. WISE might have had ordinary discretion enough to rest the appeal on an appropriate ground. And the more especially so, since, of necessity, "the invaders" must be depended on in great measure for works of charity of this sort, and it is hardly kind to the Orphan Society to alienate the sympathy of "Yankeedom" by calling it bad names. Indeed, Gov. WISE very ungraciously adds, "Their enemies who slew their fathers, honor them enough to feed their poor orphans! They won't hurt you for daring to do deeds of charity." The fact here stated (not to speak of the very bad tone of the sentences) shows in itself the impolicy, as well as the very bad taste of describing a part of the benefactors of the little orphans, as "their enemies, who slew their fathers." But to speak either of tact or taste on this subject to Ex-Gov. WISE, whose name is so vivid an instance of the *lucus a non lucendo*, is of course useless.

Speaking more generally—for this instance we have elaborated only to let it serve as an example of several upon which the same commentary may be offered—what appropriateness is there in always endeavoring to revive old hatreds and to make the inveterate wounds bleed afresh, when harmony, reconciliation and brotherly love are the words of the hour? What benefit is there in refusing to accept the facts which the sword has settled, and which the great majority of the Southern people admit? Gov. WISE fires to a white heat over the word "rebellion." Pray, what but rebellion was the Southern movement? Was it secession? The word has been cut by the sword out of our American political lexicon.

We do not object to an orator's going to all lengths of trope and tautology if he and his auditors like it. He may exhaust the possibilities of metaphor, and commit all sorts of extravagances of prosody, provided his spirit be not angry and unforgiving. There is no objection, for example, to Mr. WISE's long column of events which "I have seen"—the *quas vidi et quorum magna pars fui*, which is always a little pardonable. But, at this time, and in our circumstances, we hardly think it in good taste for unpardoned general officers in the rebellion—we beg pardon, Confederacy—to rehearse "invasions" and the exploits of the cause which has been sealed past recovery. Gen. WISE had much better follow the lead of such officers as LEE, JOHNSTON and PILLOW, than that of EARLY and MAGRUDER. To "forgive and forget" is not a policy with which he seems satisfied.

Crime and Example.

Under all forms of government, whether national or local, republican or monarchical, the personal character and public actions of those in authority have much influence over the moral growth of the masses, or their decadence in wisdom and virtue. There are and always will be numberless examples of this. We are reminded of it by every page of history and every retrospect of our own experiences. The vices of the English CHARLESES, the narrow political views of the Third GEORGE, and the licentiousness of the Fourth, had no less power to lower, than has the example of Queen VICTORIA to elevate the general standard of British social morality. And a comparison of various epochs in other countries is not less suggestive of the same principle. Among ourselves illustrations are not wanting. To compare the political influence of ABRAHAM LINCOLN with that of BUCHANAN is but to indicate a period during which public spirit and patriotism succeeded public duplicity and faint-heartedness.

But there is no more forcible example of the evil effects wrought upon society by corrupt administration than is afforded by the moral status of great cities. New-York may be fairly alluded to as one of them. Crime in this city is very rampant and very shameless. The labors of the police, faithful and energetic as they are, bring to the surface but a tithe of its amount. For one complaint that reaches a police court, there are ten compromised or terrified into silence. Numberless robberies and assaults are committed, the sufferer from which dares not appeal to justice for fear of personal injury. Of the peculations, and frauds, and cowardly oppressions committed with impunity, and gloried in as mere exhibitions of smartness, the number is Legion. The rowdy element is proud of its achievements, the rogue of the readiness with which he makes his "pile." Debauchery is esteemed an accomplishment, and virtue a mere delusion. We might exhaust the Decalogue if we named all the sins which by this class are regarded as creditable to their talents and activity. And why in great measure is this? Because the viciousness, which we of America term rowdyism, has its professors among the very classes whose example is of vice in its most odious forms. The Five-Points loafer, or the bar-room lounger, or the highway robber who robs for fun, but imitate those who steal from the public instead of from individuals. What answer could be made to a criminal's defense founded upon the wholesale peculations of a public contractor?

The moral training of any community like this of New-York is a grave and solemn matter. Yet how do some men who get rich by public plunder regard it? Apparently as of no account, compared, that is, with their own aggrandizement. And what sort of training are our young men now receiving? They see municipal offices whose duties are a sham, and officers whose whole aim is to evade all labor save that of adding to their emoluments by corrupt use of their positions. We see contracts made on purpose to be broken, and the public swindled thereby. Men who would be astonished if told by their children that they are thieves, know that they are so in the public estimation. How can we wonder that where success is made the standard of official morality, numbers of the young adopt the same standard for their own guidance? How can we wonder that while the whole atmosphere is tainted with official corruption the distinction between right and wrong is first ignored, and then forgotten by the predatory amateurs who infest the streets, the parlors and the saloons of our city. That vice is profitable and therefore right, becomes the creed of thousands, and to lose one's honor is a gain if it fills the purse.

There are men who as they read these words will be at no loss for an application of them. Do such ever think of the deep stain upon their broadcloth which all see but themselves? Do they ever reflect that every dollar wrung from a careless population by dishonesty is, by the consequences of example, an addition to the sad amount of crime among the people? It they do not, they are less discerning than we take them to be. The moral responsibility that rests upon those who become rich by lax morals in the service of their fellow-men is a fearful thing, and not to be contemplated without a shudder.

Co-operative Building Associations.

The present alleged scarcity of dwellings suitable for occupation by families in moderate circumstances naturally recalls a subject which a few years ago was much discussed. The idea of association for procuring homes has been realized in many States to a considerable extent, but not, we believe, of late years. At all events New-York has not participated in its advantages to any appreciable extent. The plan adopted in England, and found very successful, has been usually as follows. A number of persons, say one hundred, form an association and commence paying a weekly sum toward its exchequer. Suppose them to subscribe $5 a week, in six weeks $3,000 will have accumulated. The society, which employs its own architect, purchases a lot of ground and is ready to build a house. At this stage the members are allowed to compete by the offer of a premium for the first chance of ownership, the accumulated premiums being added to the common stock. The successful bidder forthwith has a house built for him, and takes possession, the society retaining a mortgage on the property until the whole of the members are provided with residences and have paid up the value thereof. On entering his house, the holder some times pays rent, in addition to his subscription, which rent, with a fair deduction for expenses of management, goes to liquidate his debt, and is therefore equivalent to a savings bank. In either case, the final result is that a man by paying a reasonable advance upon the rent he has been accustomed to bear, is in a few years, and without feeling any excessive burden upon his resources, owner of a tenement for life.

The most common method as to sites has been to select a favorable one and purchase land enough for all the houses to be built, and by which a lower rate of purchase is incurred than by lots obtained separately. This involves, of course, a longer period before offering the first dwelling for competition, but is more advantageous to the society in general. It also enables extended laying out of property in a choice and tasteful manner, such as in squares, terraces, &c. This whole subject, even though the present outcry for dwellings may be partly the result of panic, and likely to subside, should be considered by the crowded population of our city.

Personal.

Mr. JAMES R. SPALDING, one of the editors of the NEW-YORK TIMES, who had taken a trip to New-Orleans for the benefit of his health, was, on his return, we regret to hear, struck with paralysis. Mr. SPALDING being unable to speak when removed from the vessel on Wednesday evening, was driven about to several hotels, the proprietors of which, not knowing him, refused to take him in. Mr. SPALDING's friends were then notified of his condition, and he was taken to the New-York Hospital, where he now lies in a most critical condition. His family, who reside in Poughkeepsie, were sent for, and are now in attendance upon him. Mr. SPALDING's health had been greatly impaired by excessive and protracted mental exertions, and it is feared that his present sickness will prove fatal.—*Commercial Advertiser.*

This statement contains several inaccuracies. Mr. SPALDING was *not* "unable to speak" when he was removed from the steamer *Evening Star* on her arrival from New-Orleans. He gave the hackman orders to drive him to the Astor House. On being refused admission there, he ordered the coachman to drive to the Metropolitan Hotel. Subsequently he was taken to the Lafarge House with no better success. As a last resort the hack drove up to the TIMES counting-room, where a temporary couch was provided for the sufferer until medical aid could be procured. Mr. SPALDING was ultimately taken to the New-York Hospital the same night on which he arrived. We are happy to say that he has since improved considerably.

MEDICAL REGIMEN IN OUR HARBOR.—The report of the Commissioners of Quarantine, which has been transmitted to our State Legislature, is a document which will attract more than ordinary attention this year, from the fact that the subject of quarantine is again being extensively discussed in connection with the threatened visitation of cholera. Of course the Commissioners favor the present system; and they show that during the past year they have done a good deal of work in the way of perfecting and enforcing it. The suggestions they

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatches to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Feb. 3.

ORDER IN RESPECT TO DESERTERS.

In consequence of the large number of desertions from the regular army during the past few months, Gen. GRANT has issued an order calling on Commanders of departments and regiments to take the most stringent measures for checking the evil, and to cause inspections to be made to discover and remove the cause. The state of discipline of companies, and treatment of enlisted men by commissioned officers, will be particularly investigated, with a view to prevent harsh and arbitrary treatment and illegal punishment. To secure the prompt arrest and punishment of deserters, commanding officers of companies will forward direct to the Adjutant-General at least once in ten days lists of deserters, giving their place of residence, a full personal description, and any facts connected with them which may lead to their discovery and apprehension. All recruiting officers will take special pains to cause the apprehension by their recruiting parties and citizens of every deserter from the regular army who can be found within their reach, and a reward of $30 may be paid for each deserter.

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

SENATE....SATURDAY, Feb. 3.

The Senate is not in session to-day.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Feb. 3.

LAKE ERIE HARBORS.

Mr. SPALDING introduced a bill, which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, providing for the repair and improvement of the harbors of Cleveland and Fairport, on Lake Erie.

BOUNTIES.

Mr. ROGERS presented a petition from the soldiers of Paterson, N. J., for the passage of a law of Congress giving soldiers who enlisted or volunteered before July, 1863, bounties equal to those given to such as volunteered after that time.

APPROPRIATIONS.

The bill reported by Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Appropriations, making appropriations for the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Departments of the government for the year ending June 30, 1867, was made the special order for Monday.

PENSIONS TO PERSONS IN THE NAVY.

The House passed the bill providing that persons in the naval service of the United States, who have lost one foot and one hand in the line of their duty, shall be allowed the same pensions as is allowed by law to persons in the military service who have suffered similar losses; and, also, that the provisions of section 5 of the pension law of July 4, 1864, shall apply to persons in the naval service. The term "military" in the former law was construed not to include persons in the naval service. The design of this bill is to equalize the pension law.

THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU BILL.

The House, Mr. WASHBURN, of Illinois, in the chair, proceeded to the consideration of the Senate's bill to enlarge the powers of the Freedmen's Bureau.

Mr. MARSHALL (Dem.) said it was difficult to conceive of a more important measure than that now pending. Its professed object was to look after and take care of a race which has been recently released from bondage, and this involved the expenditure of untold millions of dollars. He denied that the federal government can become the common almoner of the people; and also denied that Congress could put their hands into the pockets of the poor and industrious laborer and take a part of their hard earnings to distribute the money among those who may need it. He denied that the federal government was established for any such purpose, and asserted, further, that there was no authority or warrant in the constitution for such an extraordinary measure. This House became a revolutionary tribunal, as lawless as that of the Jacobins in France, which brought the unfortunate Louis XVI. to the block, and was animated by similar purposes. For the expression of generous sentiments the gentleman from New-York (Mr. RAYMOND) was to be immolated and dragged down, and such epithets hurled at him as were never before heard in a deliberative assembly. A willing and abject majority were here to record the edicts of a dictatorship which has been established over every department of the government. He stated at length his objections to the bill. There was no right or authority for the War Department establishing in the States a system of government apart from the which should be applicable to the entire people alike. By what warrant in the constitution could the officers of the bureau act as judges sustained by the military power, and go into the States, enter the markets and buy up lands for the purpose of selling thereon freedmen, and protecting and maintaining them, he supposed, until they became a self-sustaining institution. The bill should be called "An act to destroy the constitution, and subject the people to military power and domination."

Mr. HUBBARD said it was impossible for a bill to be framed which, in the outset, would be satisfactory to every one. It was to be expected that gentlemen on the other side would be opposed to all legislation on the subject, and that they would indulge in very sharp criticism; but he considered the bill as perfect as they could now get it. The act would always be under the control of Congress, and subject to amendment or repeal. One object was to give employment to the emancipated, and to secure the advantages of labor to those men who were now wandering over the country homeless and friendless. And another was to give them the opportunity of learning to read and to protect themselves, in a reasonable way, in their civil rights. They ought not to be left to perish by the wayside when the country needs their labor. It was not their crime or fault that they are poor, for they have for centuries been robbed of their earnings. In reply to Mr. MARSHALL, he said there was authority in the constitution for the passage of this bill, for to Congress was given power to pass all proper laws to carry out the provisions of the constitution, which include the public welfare.

Mr. MOULTON understood that the object of the bill was to protect four millions of men whose rights have been denied in the Southern States, and who are dependent, to some extent, upon the aid of this government. His colleague, Mr. MARSHALL, had argued against this bill as a violation of the constitution, but this House had continually heard such express ons for the last four years from that side. They were entered whenever any measures were to be passed here for the benefit of the country and the defence of our rights. If gentlemen on the other side are sincerely desirous of wiping the negroes from the free States, they ought to join the majority in this House in the passage of this bill, for when the colored men are fully and completely protected in their rights they will never visit the North, and every Northern State would be depleted of them. They should be protected from the damnable violence of the traitors in the Southern states.

Mr. KELLEY said that a distinguished General of Alabama had called upon him and shown him a newspaper containing the proceedings of a court sentencing a black man and woman to death for larceny or imprisonment for ninety-nine years, for the offence. The editor of the paper justified the verdict, saying that the plantation, not the city, was the proper place for negroes.

Mr. ROUSSEAU, of Kentucky, asked the name of the distinguished General.

Mr KELLEY replied, Gen. SPENCER, who, as colonel, raised the first regiment of loyal Alabamians.

Mr. ROUSSEAU said this was the first time he had heard of Gen. SPENCER.

Mr. KELLEY replied that was quite possible, and yet Gen. SPENCER might be a distinguished General, for all the intelligence of the world does not reach the central part of Kentucky.

Mr. ROUSSEAU said he was in Northern Alabama and Middle Tennessee for two years, and he would not say SPENCER was not there, but denied that SPENCER was a distinguished General or anything else.

Mr. KELLEY remarked that he would take the word of TECUMSEH SHERMAN as against that of the gentleman from Kentucky. He knew that SPENCER served with Gen. SHERMAN, and thought he was on his staff. He repeated that they hung black men and women in Alabama, and imprisoned them ninety-nine years for larceny, but no such punishment was meted to white rebels who steal black men's horses.

Mr. MOULTON resumed his remarks in favor of the bill and said: No republican government can or ought to exist, while four millions of people are deprived of their rights.

Mr. RITTER (Dem.) said the bill proposed to establish a government within a government. It was not for the benefit of all, but for only a part of the people. It was not for the whites but for the blacks. The enormous amount of money required was to be paid by white people. Why continue this expensive establishment to force on a hard working and honest people from twelve millions to perhaps a hundred or two hundred and fifty millions of dollars? And all this for the reason that slavery has been abolished. He asked why the unlimited power contained in this bill should be extended to every State, unless it was to increase political power? This machine opened a vast field for the selection of military men in time of peace, and it was made absolutely necessary to retain a large army, if for no other purpose than simply to protect the agents and employes connected with the bureau. According to a statement of Gen. HOWARD 790 officers were connected with it. If this number was considered necessary when the operations of the bureau were confined to the South, how much greater would it be when its machinery was extended to all the States? Whether it was the design of the bill or not, the effect would be immense colonies of negroes, who would ultimately drive out the white people from five of the States, and fill their places with the black race. No more effectual measure could be introduced for that purpose. It could not be expected that the two races could thus live together contentedly, and the whites would be compelled to seek other homes.

Mr. KELLEY, in explanation of what he had said at a previous stage of the proceedings, read an extract from the Tuscaloosa *Observer* of December last, showing that a number of freedmen and freedwomen who were convicted and sent to the penitentiary for various terms for larceny, while a man who stole a horse was sentenced to be hanged. The editor added unless the negroes reform there would be necessity for a penitentiary in every county. The negro ought to be kept from congregating in towns, the true place for him being the plantation. Separated from the plantation they cannot obtain a subsistence, and hence it became necessary for them to steal to satisfy the wants of nature.

Mr. ROUSSEAU said he did not justify any wrongs, but rose to discuss the bill under consideration. He was opposed to it, not from personal spirit, but because if this oppressive measure should be passed it would lead to the injury of those it claimed to protect. He was not a Republican, but he had acted with the Union party, and he was sorry to say that the Union and the Republican party were not always the same. During the last four years he had voted with the Republican party to suppress the rebellion, and he had given it a hearty and honest support. The object of the war was at the outset declared to be to suppress the rebellion, defend the constitution and to restore all the States to the dignity and rights which they enjoyed before the contest began. He believed that the Republican party would save the Union because they expressed the will of the people. There were now no armed rebels to make war, and should they, with such standing armies as they could always obtain, talk about war with unarmed men and women of the South. This bill was an absolute disgrace, not only in his judgment, but in that of those who would suffer by it. Such extraordinary powers had never before been conferred. Take care, he said, of the negro, and he would stand by those who would do so; but do not place such power in the hands of bad men who would be sent into the Southern States. The whole thing was without warrant, and wiped away the constitution and laws of Kentucky. He showed what difficulties would rise under the operation of this bill. It would produce conflicts between the whites and blacks. He then remarked that there was a Freedmen's Bureau in Alabama, but it could not prevent the hanging which the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY) referred to. So far as he understood the Freedmen's Bureau in Kentucky, it by its indiscretion harassed loyal men. Let us do right ourselves before we demand it from others. There was no reason whatever for the illegal and unconstitutional legislation proposed. After all the sacrifices of Union men to put down the war they had been told by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. STEVENS) and by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. SHELLABARGER) and other extreme men that "the Southern States are out of the Union;" and that "the constitution must be amended to keep the Republican party in power." With him (ROUSSEAU) Northern and Southern secessionists are the same. He held a position from which he could not be driven, which is, that every citizen of the United States holds paramount allegiance to the general government, and that such allegiance when given, entitled every such citizen to all the protection which could be afforded. The war was, he repeated, for the Union, and this purpose was declared by Congress directly after the battle of Bull Run—but now they were gravely told that the Southern States were out of the Union. He referred to the refusal of the House to admit the members elect from Arkansas, even to the privileges of the floor, and to the members from Tennessee being denied admission to their seats. These men were earnest and efficient in supporting the Union cause, and some of them rendered efficient service in the field.

Mr. DELANO, of Ohio, made an explanation, called forth by a remark of Mr. ROUSSEAU, and said he repudiated as utterly groundless the assertion that the States are dead. They live, and, by the blessing of God, they will live, as long as the United States shall live as a part and parcel of our common country. He was ready to admit the members from Arkansas and Tennessee to this floor, and it was due to the country that this be done speedily. [Applause.]

Mr. ROUSSEAU concluded his remarks denying that the Southern States are out the Union. The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. STEVENS) reminded him of a doctor he had heard of—he meant no offence to the gentleman by saying the doctor was a quack, or to the doctor by comparing him with the gentleman. He visited a man who had the pleurisy, and left with him a prescription of tea and toast; but after the doctor left, the sick man became so hungry that he importuned his wife for roast shoat. When the doctor made his next visit he inquired into the condition of his patient. "He is about well," was the answer, "having recovered on the tea, toast and shoat." So the doctor took out his book and wrote in it: "Roast shoat good for pleurisy." [Laughter.] The doctor having been called on to prescribe for another man sick with pleurisy, prescribed roast shoat. The doctor went away, and the man, unfortunately, died. When the doctor paid his next visit, he inquired how his patient was. The wife said he would not cease troubling me for roast shoat, and it killed him. [Laughter.] The doctor then wrote in his book, "Roast shoat is good for the pleurisy sometimes." [Renewed laughter.] Secession was bad at the beginning of the war, but we are now told by gentlemen that it was a good thing. The very ground that JEFFERSON DAVIS occupied, that the States could secede, was now occupied by gentlemen on this floor. [Laughter.] But, said Mr. ROUSSEAU, we will appeal to the people to come back to the old platform of the Union, the constitution and the enforcement of the laws. [Loud applause.]

RECESS.

The House then took a recess until 7:30 o'clock.

EVENING SESSION.

Mr. SHANKLIN (Dem.) opposed the bill, and in reply to those who had defended it, said there was as a general thing no hostility on the part of the former masters toward those who have been emancipated; on the contrary, there was a feeling of kindness unknown to the people of the North. The hostility, if any, was toward fanatical abolitionists who came into the Southern country, and by promises, persuasions and misrepresentations demoralized the negroes. By bringing a negro population into contact, the spirit of the rebel government was strengthened and that of our own weakened, and it was the means of prolonging the war, beside the expenditure of thousands of lives and many millions of money, and the desolation of a large portion of the country. But for this the war would have been of shorter duration. While he had always been opposed to the doctrine of secession as a political heresy, he was compelled also to denounce as a political heresy the doctrine of abolition. One was as damnable as the other.

Mr. PHELPS said he was one of those who believed that in the consideration of questions of this character they were not to be bound and trammeled by the rules of party organization, caucus or coercion of the machinery of a party caucus. He was the representative in part of a State which gave freedom to eighty thousand slaves without compensation. He believed that the freedmen ought to be encouraged to labor and be protected in all their rights and from the danger, no matter how remote or circuitous, of falling into the condition from which they have just been rescued. He stated his objections to the bill. It contained the agrarian principle, which may be referred to as a justification hereafter for establishing a bureau for the support of paupers. He was opposed to so much money being placed in the hands of agents to be used, if other measures should be introduced giving the freedmen the right of suffrage, for corruption, in the buying of voters. There, however, was a redeeming feature in the bill which almost tempted him to give to it his support, and that was, we must recognize these people as in a state of pupilage.

Mr. CHANDLER (Dem.) said that such a programme under the plea and subsidies of philanthropy called upon him not only to speak in behalf the North, but of the whole country, and to condemn the spirit with which this bill was brought forward, and the zeal with which it was pressed. The teaching which comes from the lips of those who advanced this measure is devilish sophistry and belongs rather to the Pharisees who hoodwinked their garments that they might scourge the Saviour. This bill made the President the distributor of cast-off clothing, which belonged to shoddy contracts and was for the benefit of their radical friends in New-England who deal in merchandise. The design seemed to be to continue the system of bounties which were commenced in time of war. He gave at length his reasons for opposing the bill, and argued that it would seriously interfere with immigration to the South.

The House adjourned.

FROM THE STATE CAPITAL.

OUR ALBANY LETTER.

The Heath Bill in the House—Convict Labor in the State Prisons—The House to hold Evening Sessions—The Traders' Exchange—Arbitration instead of going to Law—The Eight-Hour Labor Bill.

ALBANY, Saturday, Feb. 3, 1866.

The Health Bill came down from the Senate to the House this morning, and was referred to the Committee on Public Health, of which Dr. CONGDON, of Tompkins, is Chairman. That committee has already had the subject under consideration, and will report as soon as Wednesday or Thursday of next week. The bill will undoubtedly provoke more discussion in the House than it did in the Senate, and strong efforts will be made to change the names of the Commissioners. Many Union members are moving to have a party caucus called, to settle upon the line of policy to be pursued in reference to this measure, and it is not unlikely that such a meeting will be called.

The most important bill considered in the House this morning was one "for the better protection of the mechanics of this State by regulating the convict labor in the prisons in this State." The principal feature of the bill is contained in the following section:

Sec. 1. No male convict who shall hereafter be sentenced to imprisonment in either of the State Prisons of this State, shall be permitted to work therein at any other mechanical trade than that which, as shall appear by the certificate of the Clerk of the court in which he shall be convicted, such convict shall have learned and practised previous to his conviction, except that the convicts at Sing Sing may be employed in the cutting and manufacture of stone, and the convicts at Clinton in the manufacture of iron from the ore; and except also that convicts may be employed in such branches of manufacture as are not elsewhere carried on in the State of New-York.

Mr. BRANDRETH, of Westchester, who seems to have made himself the especial champion of laboring men, spoke at length in favor of the bill. The great argument for the foregoing section is that convicts who have learned other trades are put at work under contractors or iron moulders; and after serving out two or three years' time, compete with journeymen who have served a regular apprenticeship to the trade. It is urged that the State should not bring its prison labor into dangerous competition with honest industry. Progress was reported on the bill, which will probably pass.

The House has determined to hold evening sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the consideration of general orders. A large amount of business is now being transacted, the Grinding Committee bringing in a large grist every morning. The quantity of local legislation seem to exceed any previous year.

The bill introduced this morning by Mr. T. E. STEWART to incorporate the Traders' Exchange names as corporators Wm. H. Morse, Morris D. Ainslee, Heman G. Ward, John Rathbone, E. T. Wright, Nathaniel Hillyer, E. A. Miller and John J. Peck; authorizes the company to hold property, real or personal, to an amount of $2,000,000; the capital stock, not less than $50,000 or more than $2,000,000, shall be divided into shares of $50 each. The affairs of the corporation shall be managed by a board of seven trustees, to be elected by the stockholders annually, who shall appoint a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, and remove the same at pleasure. The purpose of the corporation shall be to provide and maintain a building or buildings suitable for a Traders' Exchange in the City of New-York, and such other purposes as may, in the opinion of the trustees, tend to carry out the design of such institution and promote the convenience of transacting the business of traders generally, and the sale and transfer of real and personal property; to inculcate just and equitable principles of trade; to establish and maintain uniformity in commercial usage; to acquire, preserve and disseminate valuable business information, and to adjust controversies and misunderstandings between persons engaged in business. The Board of Trustees are to elect annually, by ballot, five persons, who shall not be members of the Board, as a Committee, to be known as "the Arbitration Committee of the Trader's Exchange," which Committee shall hear and determine any controversy which may arise between the stockholders of the corporation, or persons who may become members by subscription, or persons claiming by, through or under them, and such persons may, by an agreement in writing, submit any such controversy which might be the subject of an action at law or in equity, except claims to real estate, providing that a final judgment of the Supreme Court shall be rendered upon any award made pursuant to such submission. The committee is to have power to issue subpœnas and compel the attendance of witnesses within the metropolitan district. The award of the committee, when duly submitted in writing, is to be final between the parties, except as to questions of fraud or other misdemeanors.

The eight hour labor bill of Mr. BRANDRETH is exciting a good deal of discussion here. It is now before the House Committee on Trade and Manufactures. Mr. BRANDRETH will address the committee in support of the bill next Friday at 3 P. M. in the Court of Appeals chamber. Representatives from various Trade Unions are expected to be present, all of whom favor the bill strongly. PERSIMMON.

CROTON AQUEDUCT AND BROADWAY UNDERGROUND RAILROAD.

The Chief Engineer of the Croton Aqueduct sent to the Senate on Friday his reply to a resolution of inquiry as to the practicability of conducting a railroad under Broadway, in the City of New-York. He says:

"I assume that the inquiry refers to a road constructed upon the same general plan as that vetoed by the Governor last yerr. Also, that the grade, location, plan of the tunnel, &c., are the same as proposed in the report of A. F. BOBINSON, Esq., civil engineer. In reply, I beg leave to state that to set forth in specific detail the extent and cost of the work of removing and relaying pipe, and the construction of sewers necessarily resulting from the building of such a road would require more time than appears to have been anticipated by your honorable body. I have been compelled, therefore, to confine myself, in general terms to the principal points involved; which, together with the aid of the accompanying maps and profiles, will enable you to form at least an approximate estimate of the complicated difficulties to be encountered so far as the water pipes and sewers are involved; the damages to the inhabitants whose daily comforts and absolute necessities are dependent upon the uninterrupted use of these public works; the losses of manufactories suspended; the risk of destruction of property by fires during the total or partial interruption of the water supply, and other interests affected.

"First—*The Water Supply.*—It must be borne in mind the chief supply of the whole city is drawn from the large main pipes through Fifth-avenue and Broadway, directly on the site of the proposed railway. From these main pipes the water is distributed east and west to the river limits. At whatever point the work on the railroad should be in operation, it would at once involve the necessity of the removal of these main pipes from the section where the work might be in progress. During the time taken for this removal and the reconnection of the numerous lateral branches, the inhabitants in the intersecting streets would be cut off from water entirely, while the rest of the city from river to river, south of the point of work, would be dependent solely on the utterly inadequate supply coming through the small cross mains, reaching districts for which they were not intended by the way of lateral connections with the remote parts of the general system of net-work of pipe-distribution.

* * * * * * *

When it is considered that even now when all the mains are in operation, complaints of an insufficient head of water throughout the lower part of the city are constant and urgent, you will more readily understand the condition to which the inhabitants might be reduced if that head were materially diminished, as it most certainly would be, by the construction of the proposed railway, however well devised or skillfully conducted might be the operations.

The above statement implies the possibility of prosecuting the work on the road in the most careful and deliberate manner, commencing at the Battery and working in regular sections. But it is undeniable that if the road were to be finished in any reasonable time it would be necessary to work it in many points simultaneously. This, while it would decrease the number of persons deprived of water, would also diminish the supply through the laterals to the rest of the city.

The extent of damage to individuals and to companies growing out of the construction of the suggested railroad it is impossible to estimate with even approximate correctness. The area of population covered, the extent and variety of interests involved, and the different degree of inconvenience and loss sustained by each class of sufferers, all make up a whole so complicated that the actual experience alone of proved results could warrant any summing up of the total loss or damage. That the municipal government which has guaranteed to the consumers the use of this water would be obliged to make good the losses growing out of the interruption seems probable. I do not advert to the cost to the city of making all these changes in the mains, because the cost of removal and reconstruction would depend on so many contingencies that it is impossible to arrive at any degree of accuracy, and because also it is proposed the railway pay this.

The report of Mr. CRAVEN is very full, going into all the little details of the matter, and is accompanied by maps, showing the position of the pipes, sections, &c., &c.; but the above are the principal points contained in it, and, in conclusion, he says: In calling your attention to the complicated evils which would certainly arise from the construction of the proposed railway, I have been obliged to state opinions unsupported in general by estimates, but I trust you will see the impossibility of doing otherwise. * * To form an idea of the expense which would ultimately fall on the city for damages would be impossible until the various suits, which would be instituted, were finally settled. When more than half a million of people are all injuriously affected, and all in different degrees of damage, the last verdict on the last suit would have to be rendered before the total sum of liabilities could be known.

FROM THE RIO GRANDE.

Reply of Gen. Weitzel to the Protest of Merchants and Foreign Consuls at Matamoras—The Bagdad Affair Under Investigation—Reported Arrival of President Juarez at San Antonio.

NEW-ORLEANS, Friday, Feb. 2.

Gen. WEITZEL has written a letter to the Adjutant-General of the Department of Texas, reviewing at length the protest of the merchants and foreign Consuls at Matamoras.

He makes counter charges and asserts that they were greatly instrumental in aiding the Confederates during the war with arms, ammunition and other necessaries of war.

He says that he has disavowed the capture and pillage of Bagdad and knows that his government will do the same.

He also says that all who have been identified as engaged in the Bagdad affair have been arrested, and that a commission is now in session to investigate the whole affair.

NEW-ORLEANS, Friday, Feb. 2.

Gen. WEITZEL has issued an order directing every commander to arrest all armed persons discovered lurking in the District of the Rio Grande.

A military commission is now in Brazos, St. Jago, investigating the Bagdad affair. All persons, whether residents of Mexico or the United States, are summoned to appear, who are cognizant of any of the circumstances connected therewith.

Gen. WEITZEL has annulled the order mustering out of the service the One Hundred and Eighteenth United States Colored Infantry until the report of the Military Commission is made.

The arrival of President JUAREZ at San Antonio, Texas, is again stated.

TEXAS.

Retirement of Gen. Mower—Heavy Importations from England—German Immigration—The Freedmen Doing Well.

NEW-ORLEANS, Friday, Feb 2.

Gen. MOWER, commanding the sub-district of Galveston and Houston, passed through this city today, en route home, previous to being mustered out of the service.

Large invoices of goods, imported from England by the way of Havana, have arrived at Galveston, and been sent into the interior.

Several German vessels are soon expected at Galveston with emigrants.

The Houston *Telegraph* says that the freedmen generally manifest a disposition to work under their new contracts.

The railroad is completed and running between Lavacca and Victoria.

A fire at Jefferson, Texas, had destroyed two blocks, entailing a loss of $50,000.

SOUTHERN ITEMS.

Arrival of Assistant Secretary Chandler at New-Orleans—Removal of the Collector at Mobile—The Guerrillas and Government Cotton.

NEW-ORLEANS, Friday, Feb. 2.

Assistant Secretary CHANDLER and Hon. HARVEY M. WALTERS have arrived here.

Mr. CHANDLER has removed R. V. MONTAGUE from the Collectorship of Customs for Mobile, on account of his connection in certain transactions with T. C. A. DEXTER, late special cotton agent. J. M. TOMINY is now acting as Collector.

The steamer *Belfast*, captured a few days ago on the Tombigbee River by a party of guerrillas, was returned to her captain after they had landed all her cotton. They swear vengeance against all government cotton.

A collision occurred on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, above Corinth, the day before yesterday, by which three persons were killed and four others mortally wounded.

KANSAS.

Burning of the Government Warehouses at Fort Riley—Activity Among the Bushwhackers.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Friday, Feb. 2.

The Junction City, (Kansas,) *Union* says:

The commissary and quartermaster warehouses at Fort Riley were burned on Wednesday. The loss is estimated at a million of dollars. Nothing was saved.

Considerable excitement prevails in Cass, Jackson and Lafayette Counties, on account of the threatened organization of the old bushwhackers to attempt the rescue of some of their number now in jail.

The Detroit Fenians—O'Mahony Sustained.

DETROIT, Saturday, Feb. 3.

At a meeting of the Detroit Circle of the Fenian Brotherhood, the resolutions adopted condemn the Senate, and regard the designs on Canada as unjust and detrimental to the cause. They indorse the action of the convention in abolishing the Philadelphia constitution, and have entire confidence in Mr. O'MAHONY.

Changes in the Military District of Mississippi.

ST. LOUIS, Saturday, Feb. 3.

Gen. WOOD has ordered the military districts embraced in the Department of Mississippi to be discontinued after the 1st inst. Military posts are to be established at Vicksburgh, Jackson, Natchez and Meridian, and temporary stations at Columbus and Grenada.

Arrival of the Steamer Damascus at Portland.

PORTLAND, Me., Saturday, Feb. 3.

The steamer *Damascus*, Capt. WATTS, from Liverpool on the 18th, via Londonderry on the 19th inst., arrived here at 4.30 o'clock this morning. Her news is anticipated. She makes the following report: Passed a field of ice in lat. 47.54, long. 48.2.

Assassination in Arkansas—Murder of a County Clerk, Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff.

ST. LOUIS, Saturday, Feb. 3.

The County Clerk, Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff of Pope County, Arkansas, were all recently assassinated. The clerk, Rev. WM. STOUT, was a member of the Free Convention two years ago.

The New-Orleans Markets.

NEW-ORLEANS, Friday, Feb. 2.

Cotton is active; sales to-day 3,500 bales at 48c.@49c., for middling. Sales of the week, 22,000 bales. Receipts of the week, 22,000 bales. Stock, 180,000 bales. Sugar active; fair to fully fair at 14¾c. @15¼c. Gold 140. Other markets unchanged.

Indian Affairs.

FORT LARAMIE, Saturday, Feb. 3.

Messengers from the Sioux and Cheyonnes were received by the commanding officer yesterday. The interview was mutually satisfactory. Their chiefs have been invited to the council at Laramie. Peace prospects are favorable.

Arrest of Gen. Coolbaugh.

ST. LOUIS, Friday, Feb. 2.

Gen. COOLBAUGH, who has been engaged in various swindling operations in different parts of the country, was arrested here to-day.

FINE ARTS.

Pictures, Galleries and Picture Sales.

The sales at auction of paintings and other works of art which have taken place in the city this Winter are without precedent in number and importance in its history, and it would appear that the end is not yet. The eagerness with which the works of artists, known and unknown, have been bought up is only less surprising than the prices obtained for pictures of ordinary merit only. If the artist still continues the unambitious tenant of the garret, it must be that he clings to the classic region from association, or habit, or that he loves the light too dearly to covet the more spacious and aristocratic under-floors, for, notwithstanding the grumbling at high rents, art no longer dreads the quarter-day. Not only is the labor of the artist who by years of honest toil and careful study has attained a name, appreciated, and his creations sought for, but even mediocre talent, that seldom aspires above respectable copying, meets all the fostering appreciation it can need for its development, in good prices for productions which are but the repetition of the thoughts of others.

As an evidence of the progress of that taste and the plenitude of greenbacks which accompanies it, may be noticed the successful operation of the Somerville Art Gallery, in attracting daily crowds of visitors to its exhibitions and to its sales. Messrs. MINER and SOMERVILLE recognizing, as caterers to public taste, the up-town emigration of the wealthy of the city, realized in good time the paying prudence of following in their wake, and erected their fine gallery on Broadway near Fourteenth-street. Purchasers are more pliant in the pleasant after-dinner hours, when the heart is glad and the soul is generous. Ladies are unfrequent visitors in Nassau or Liberty streets, or far down Broadway, where works of art were wont to congregate; but they like a lamplight or a moonlight promenade, with a willing arm to lean upon, along the pleasant up-town pathways. They like to rest now and then, as a natural sequence; and what resting place more inviting than the brilliantly-lighted salon, hung round with works of art? And so they just step in to rest awhile, or take a look around them and see what things are going at. What follows the husband's nod of acquiescence and the other nods which follow shortly after? Ask the auctioneer and the expressman.

This controlling influence of feminine taste has been understood and catered for not only in the construction and location of the Somerville Art Gallery, but also in the character of the works of art brought there during several months past for gratuitous exhibition and for sale, and the results have doubtless been pleasing ones to all concerned, the buyers, and the sellers.

For some time there has been on exhibition at this gallery a collection of paintings imported by Mr. A. D. HUYVETTER of Antwerp, guaranteed as genuine works of the Dutch, French and Flemish schools, by painters of good standing—a few of them by masters. The sale of these pictures, one hundred and forty in number, closed on Friday evening, realizing the respectable sum of $30,000. The bidding, especially at the second evening's sale, was highly spirited, and in many instances money seemed to be of trifling consideration to the indefatigable bidders.

Among the collection were "Landscape with sheep," by ROSBE of Brussels—sold for $1,000. The "Wine tasters," by COL, for $730. "Interior," by BUNTENIUS, for $300. "Stable interior," by VERSCHUR of Amsterdam, for $467 50. "The Young Artist," by MOZELAGEN of Dusseldorf, for $480. "Landscape and cattle," by SARVY, for $300. "The Interior of a studio," by SCHAEFELS, for $440. "The last spoonful" and the "Little cheat," companion pictures, by GERARD, for $900. The "Bashful swain," by VANKUICK, for $535. "Winter and figures," by RUYTEN, $360. In the collection of 146 paintings there were not more than a dozen sold at sums below a hundred dollars, and few below three hundred dollars.

To-morrow will be exhibited at this gallery a well-well-known Bierstadt. The proceeds of this exhibition—in other words, the entire amount of the admittance fees—will be handed to the "Nursery and Child's Hospital."

There was also sold on the evenings of Thursday and Friday, at the old Dusseldorf Gallery, by Messrs. LEEDS & MINER, a large number of valuable paintings, belonging collectively to three different estates of prominent citizens of New-York City, deceased, and for more than one reason had special claims upon the attention of those interested in art matters.

The collections were sold to close up the accounts of the estates of Messrs. NICHOLAS DEAN, WM. LAWRENCE and JOHN LA FARGE, together with the small but especially valuable collection made by the late JOHN MCLENAN, who was one of the very best of American artists in his specialty.

These pictures were bought in Italy and America by gentlemen who were not only gifted with the taste and proper appreciation of artistic merit, but who had been blessed with ample means to gratify their tastes, and the result naturally has been that the collections possess far more than common merit.

Those who knew MCLENAN, the artist, and remember his critical taste, will easily comprehend that no picture could find a place in his small yet choice collection, save on the score of positive artistic merit. The picture that belonged to him have also another special attraction—they are all *autograph* pictures—that is, they were painted especially for him by brother artists, as offerings of love, and are consequently done in the very best and most conscientious style of the several artists. In addition to the several galleries named above, there was superadded a sixth, being a choice collection of fine modern pictures, numbering two hundred, recently selected at Rome for his own use, by a gentleman who felt constrained to part with them.

The entire list offered for sale showed specimens from the hands of the following list of ancient and modern masters:

OLD MASTERS.

F. Mieris,	Corregio,	Van Dyck,
Da Fiori,	Titian,	Noterboom,
Solario,	Rubens,	Ostade,
J. Both,	G. Romano,	Teniers,
Rachel Ruysch,	Jos. Vernet,	J. David,
Henri Kirk,	P. Veronese,	Watteau,
B. Lambrecht,	Giorgiom,	Sir J. Reynolds,
Hobbema,	Drooglcot,	A. Stork,

and others equally celebrated

MODERN.

E. Leutze,	B. N. Catlin,	J. Harvey,
S. L. Waldo,	Kyle,	J. Talbot,
Stewart Watson,	Schuselle,	W. S. Mount,
John James,	Sonntag,	Thos. Cole,
W. Hart,	Pastelle,	A. Ratbi,
Carl Hubner,	and others.	

Also, the three original oil-paintings—"Adam and Eve"—the Temptation, the Judgment, and the Expulsion—painted by BASS OTIS, in 1824.

There were also several fine works in marble sold at the same time. The sale was unreserved, even in the case of the collection of the late S. L. WALDO, which was withdrawn before the day of sale by the assignees of the estate. The entire sale realized a trifle over $18,000.

GENERAL CITY NEWS.

ACCIDENT AT THE FULTON FERRY.—As the five o'clock boat for Brooklyn of the Fulton-street line was leaving her landing on this side the river last evening, a boy about twelve years of age, who resides in Brooklyn, in attempting to jump on board the boat when she was already some two feet from the dock, fell into the water between the boat and the landing. He fortunately laid hold of a small rope that extends across the lower edge of the boat bridge, and by this means kept his head above water. But for this rope he would without doubt have perished before assistance could have been rendered him. He was obliged to remain in this terrible condition with the mercury as low as fourteen degrees above zero for fully three or four minutes before any means to save him could be obtained. Finally a small step-ladder was secured to the dock, and by it he was enabled to ascend to the dock platform, but so numbed had he become by the cold that one of the ferry hands had to go down to assist him in the ascent. Instead of having him sent to one of the many public houses near by for stimulants and dry clothing, he was coolly put in the cabin of the ferry-boat about to start for the other side on the adjoining slip, with his clothing actually frozen to solidity on his back. The slender means which the ferry company have at their command in case of danger to life, of which this accident was an evidence, and the inhuman treatment of allowing the boy to proceed on his way in the terrible condition he was in, was seriously commented on by the crowd of passengers on the dock.

VOSBURGH ASSOCIATION OF THE SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT EXEMPT GUARD.—A movement is now being inaugurated by many prominent officers and exmembers of the above regiment to organize and form themselves into a civic or military association as the occasion may offer, with the view of acting in concert with the regiment proper, and on the same basis as a like body of the Seventh Regiment. An informal meeting has already been held, and a formal call for a general meeting will be issued in a few days, when plans of organization, rules of government and other matters will be submitted for consideration and approval. We learn that there are nearly four hundred ex-members resident in this city, Brooklyn, Jersey City and Hoboken, who cordially indorse this movement.

BOND-STREET HOMEOPATHIC DISPENSARY.—DR. OTTO FULGRAFF, founder and manager of the abovenamed, well-known charity, has just issued his eleventh annual report. The Dispensary during the past year has done a very large business, and been the means of performing a great amount of real service among the sick and poor of the city. 24,086 patients have been treated; 46,160 prescriptions have been furnished, and 8,123 outdoor visits have been made by surgeons and physicans connected with the dispensary. The total number of cases attended for eleven years is 79,319; of outdoor visits 21,915, and of prescriptions 201,424. While the practical operations of the institution have never ceased, the expenses have gradually overstepped the income, leaving some of the benevolent supporters of homeopathy to shoulder a debt of several hundred dollars.

BOARDMAN PILOT FUND.—The Treasurer of the Boardman Pilot Fund, A. A. Low, Esq., desires us to acknowledge through our columns the following subscriptions: Easton & Company, $50; R. R. Graves & Co., $50; E. E. Morgan & Son, $25; De Groot & Peck, $25; Henry M. Taber, $25; Peter Rice, $25; Cash, $25; J. R. Place & Co., $25; C. & R. Poillon, $25; Cash, $10; Charles S. Davidson, $10; Cash, H. R., $10; R. L. & A. Stuart, $50; E. D. Morgan & Co., $50; J. H. Brower, $25; H. D. & J. U. Brookman, $25; Walsh & Carver, $25; Charles Leoling & Co., $25; S. W. Lewis & Co., $25; Charles L. Colby, $25; Sam'l G. Reed & Co., $25; Darling & Harris, $25; Cash, $10; Cash, $10; Cash, 5; previously acknowledged, $1,825; total, $2,455.

REPAIRING WHARVES AND PIERS.—The amount appropriated for repairing wharves, piers, and slips, last year, was $200,623 01; the total amount expended $186,519 96.

Markets by Telegraph.

BALTIMORE, Saturday, Feb. 3.

FLOUR inactive and heavy. SEEDS quiet; sales of Clover at $8 25. WHEAT dull; sales of Red at $2 33 @$2 35. CORN heavy; sales of White at 68½c.@90c.; Yellow at 75c. PROVISIONS steady. LARD at 18c.@ 18¼c. WHISKY nominal at $2 28.

A BOUQUET IN A SINGLE DROP OF FLUID.—An armful of roses might exhale a more overpowering odor than a single drop of PHALON'S "Night Blooming Cereus," but in freshness, delicacy and pure, healthful fragrance, the drop would far transcend the flowers.—*Warsaw Mirror.

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

The National Banks—Taxation of their Stockholders on Shares of Stock Owned, by the States, as Personal Property—State Sovereignty and Federal Supremacy—May Congress Relinquish to the Several States the Sovereign Powers Delegated to the United States?

Chief Justice Chase presiding.

G. Clarence Churchill, impleaded, &c., vs. The City of Utica.—This is one of the New-York bank tax cases, coming to this court from the Court of Appeals of the State of New-York, where was affirmed a judgment of the General Term of the Supreme Court, holding that the State could tax the stock of the National Banks in the hands of private owners as personal property. That judgment and its affirmance were unanimous. It is understood that the argument in these cases will be heard together, and that one opinion on the issues involved will dispose of them all.

The facts of the case, or cases, are unimportant, but it will be necessary to state that the Second National Bank of the City of Utica, whose stock was assessed, is situated in the First Ward of that city, and that the several stockholders were assessed in that ward, without reference to their residence, the question of residence being raised as one objection to the assessment in some instances. Also, that the entire capital of the bank was invested in United States securities.

By the judgment below the rule was established that the State possesses the uncontrolled and unlimited power to impose taxes upon their shares of stock held in those institutions, without regard to the manner in which the capital of such banks may be invested, whether in the national securities or otherwise.

The plaintiffs in error appeal from that judgment, and assert the following propositions: That the States do not possess any sovereign jurisdiction whatever over this class of banks or their stockholders as such; that the right of the State to tax these banks, or their stockholders, upon their shares of stock, is denied by the provisions of the constitution of the Federal government:

It is also said: That this class of property should escape taxation altogether, very naturally strikes one as an absurdity, and we do not argue in favor of any such proposition. It is thought and believed that this bank or its stockholders can and should, at the proper time, be reached for the purposes of taxation, and not only that, but that they should and will be taxed to the full extent that they can bear taxation, and yet remain useful inst tutions to the country. But it will be asked, if they are to be taxed, by whom are they to be taxed, except by the States? We reply, by the national government, by the power which is responsible for their success, or non-success, as banking institutions; by the power which brought them into being, and by whose authority they continue to exist. The history of all legislation will show that these banks cannot exist any length of time, if this right of taxation in the States is to be upheld. Suppose the State of New-York had the right to create a bank, and to tax it for doing business in the State of Ohio, with the right of that State to tax it or its stockholders: how long can it be supposed that such a bank could exist? Again, suppose that the people of the State of New-York were liable to be taxed by the State of Ohio: would we not be ground down by oppressive and unjust taxation? It is submitted that this power of taxation must remain, as it always has been, a sovereign power, and to be exercised only over such property as the sovereignty of the State may extend. That the national institutions, and the national establishments of every kind, which have been brought into existence by laws constitutionally enacted by the national legislature, exist independently of State governments, and cannot be made tributary, by means of State laws, to taxation, or in any other manner, to the needs or exigencies of the State governments.

POINTS.

First—This case cannot be distinguished, upon principl, from any of the cases above cited which have passed upon review the judgment of this court. The principles established by the preceding cases are applicable in this, and this is only another instance where States so often see in life—a recurrence of the same ills, the same scenes, the same political questions, all to be gone over again and determined anew. There follows an examination of the cases cited and a statement of the principles determined in each—which the profession can do for itself.)

Second—The points first considered will be whether the States possess the unlimited and uncontrolled constitutional right of imposing this tax, independently of any act of Congress; and there will be considered the provisions of the National Banking Act, under which the State also claims to collect this tax.

The Federal Constitution declares that the constitution itself, and the laws passed in pursuance of its provisions, shall be the supreme law of the land, and shall control all State legislation and the State constitutions, which may be incompatible therewith. The laws of the United States, made in pursuance of the constitution, are to be the supreme law of the land, anything in the laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding.

If the States may tax these shares of stock, to what extent shall they tax them, and where shall they stop? It is universally admitted that an unlimited power to tax involves a power to destroy; because there is a point beyond which the stockholders of these banks cannot bear taxation.

If the States may tax the shares of these banks, they have no limit but their own discretion, and these banks must necessarily depend upon the discretion of the State government for their existence; for you cannot have these banks for national purposes, without requiring them to possess certain capital stock, which must, from the necessity of the case, be divided into shares among the various stockholders.

The object in levying this tax may be, and doubtless was, to raise a revenue to the city or the State. In the next case the object may be to expel the bank from the State. But how is this object to be ascertained, or who is to judge of the motives of legislative acts? If New-York can suspend the operations of these banks, the same power can shut up the Custom-house, can impose a stamp tax on the judicial process of the Federal courts, on permits, clearances, registers and all other documents connected with imports and navigation. And what is to hinder her from imposing a tax upon the officers of internal revenue, the post-office and the like, until she may completely block the wheels of the general government within her borders. This tax is an attempt to raise a revenue for State purposes by an imposition of taxes upon property and franchises holden under the authority of the general government, and exists by that government for purposes connected with its own administration. There is not a single bank established under the authority of Congress that can exist, if this right to tax its stockholders exists in the State government; and a surrender on the part of the government, to the States, of this right, would be giving up of those fundamental and essential principles without which the Federal government cannot be maintained. Which we shall show, as we proceed with our arguments, Congress has no power to do.

A bank may not be, and is not, absolutely essential to the existence and preservation of the government, but it is essential to the existence and preservation of the government that Congress should be able to exercise the constitutional powers at its own discretion, without being subject to the control of State legislation. Congress having decided both the necessity and the policy of establishing these banks, the State government cannot interfere with that decision or obstruct, in the slightest degree, the operation of its measures. To hold otherwise, would be to hold and declare that Congress can only exercise its constitutional powers, subject to the controling discretion of the State governments.

These banks, as ordained by Congress, are instruments to carry into effect and execution its powers, and in order to enable these instruments to operate efficiently, they must be under the direction of the power that created them, and which is responsible to the country for their success. They cannot be interfered with or controlled in any manner by the States, without putting at hazard the accomplishment of the ends for which they are but a means. But the asserted power to tax any of the institutions of the United States, presents directly the question of the supremacy of the national laws over State laws. If this power really exists in the States, its natural tendency will be to annihilate any power which belongs to Congress, whether express or implied.

If the powers of the national government are to be limited in the States, and throughout the States; if the State Legislatures can tax the instruments, the means, the machine by which those powers are exercised, they may entirely defeat the vital powers of the general government. If they may tax one institution to any amount, so they may, in like manner, tax any other of the national institutions.* If the State may tax these stockholders to one degree, they may tax them to any degree. The right once admitted, and they may tax the bank out of the State. Here a tax is imposed on a species of property, between which and the taxing power there is no political connection. It is conceded that this is a question of great importance to the people of the States so far as the same relates to the maintenance of the State governments; but that consideration sinks into insignificance when compared with the vital importance to the Union that it should not be subject to the dictation or discretion of State legislation as to the manner in which the Federal Government shall execute the powers essential to its very existence; and especially so at this time, when every muscle of the nation is exerted to its utmost to supply ways and means for the support of our government and maintenance of its credit.

There is no express provision in the constitution which exempts any of the national institutions or property from State taxation. It is only by implication that the army, the navy and treasure of the Union are exempt from State taxation. Yet they are practically exempt, and must be, or it would be in the power of any one State to destroy their use. Is there any doubt at this day of the power of Congress to establish these banks? The right is and must be admitted; and it is self-evident that the United States have the right to do, no individual State has the right to undo; and the power to establish carries with it the power to continue and preserve. It cannot require argument to show that there is a manifest antagonism between the power to lay this tax and the power of Congress to establish and preserve these banks. The State discretion cannot be controlled by the national councils or the action of the courts. Whenever the State will it, all the national banks established within her limits must be expelled from the State; and if one national institution can be destroyed in this manner, all can be destroyed in the same manner. The success, the life of this banking system, is dependent upon the principles involved in this case. Once admit the right of State taxation, and the consequent right of State sovereignty and jurisdiction, and how long, we ask, will this banking system remain?

We have but to look at the acts passed at the last session of our State Legislature to see but the commencement of State interference with these institutions. At the time this assessment was made the statute was express that every person should be assessed for personal property in the town or ward in which he resides, and it had been held that an assessment made against a person for personal property, in a town or ward other than that in which he resided, was illegal. Yet, after this action had been submitted at the General Term, and while it was there pending and undecided, and after the county tax for 1864 had been levied and the warrant in the hands of the collector, the Legislature passed an act (27th March) ratifying and confirming this very assessment. Thus the Legislature did not hesitate to pass a retrospective statute, as to all stockholders not parties to this action, in direct violation of all principles of just and sound legislation. They did more; they singled out the stockholders of this particular bank, to confirm an admitted illegal assessment; leaving the stockholders of other banks in the State, who were in a like situation, to go free from taxation. The stockholders of the First National Bank, situated in the same ward, were not assessed to the extent of one dollar; and the same was the case with the national banks in the City of New-York and many other places in the State.

By the eleventh section of the enabling act (Laws of New-York, 1865, p. 173,) it is provided that national banks shall retain so much of the dividends belonging to any stockholder as shall be necessary to pay the taxes assessed upon the stockholder as such. Here is a direct and positive interference with the management and conduct of these banks. And yet, if these banks and their stockholders as such, are within the sovereign jurisdiction of the State, such statute may be upheld and enforced. And if the State may control the conduct of these banks to this extent, by legislation, where does the State jurisdiction end? What measure may the State not adopt for the control and management of these institutions? The right of legislation once admitted, and there is no power to control or limit it, and there will be no end to the constant and interminable interference by State legislation; and among the various States there can be no such thing as a uniform system of banking throughout the country.

The certificates and bonds of the public debt, issued under the power of Congress to borrow money, and which are the basis of this bank, are means and instruments whereby Congress exercises that power under the constitution. The money lent, while in the hands of the lender, is clearly subject to the sovereign power of the States; but the instant that it passes into the hands of the Federal Government, it (*i. e.*, the money) is free from State taxation in any form. It is then withdrawn from the State power of taxation, and the lender has received, in lieu of his money, a certificate for its repayment; which certificate is distinctly held to be as much a means for executing the power of Congress to borrow money, as are revenue cutters for enforcing the power of Congress to lay imposts and duties, and is exempt from the sovereign power of State taxation. But now it is attempted to bring the money lent back under the sovereign power of the State, by taxing the creditor's title to its repayment, which title is distinctly a means whereby the United States procure the use of the money they obtain on the public credit. These banks and their stockholders, as to their shares of stock, are not residents within the sovereign jurisdiction of the State of New-York; that is to say, the sovereign power are in the State does not extend to them for any purpose. And the State of New-York might as well undertake to tax a national bank, or its stockholders, located within the sovereign jurisdiction of California, as one located within her own borders. The sovereignty of the State does not extend to them for any purpose whatever. But they are properly subject to the sovereign power of the general government alone, which is supreme to the sovereignty of the States.

It is clear that if the power to tax these shares of stock resides in the State government, the State may select them as the special objects of taxation at its own discretion—for the Union State is not hampered with any provision of the Federal or State constitutions to prevent it. The implied power to tax involves the power to discriminate between the subjects of taxation. If a discretion exists, the courts cannot determine whether it is wisely or unwisely exercised. If the Legislature has the power to deliberate and decide, the conclusion which it reaches is wholly beyond the scope of judicial or Congressional action.

No exemption to State taxation is claimed by express provision of the constitution. It arises under the general principles of the government, and from the principle of the supremacy of the national powers, and the laws made to execute them, over the State authorities and State laws.

These national banks, and the shares of stock held by the stockholders, which are component parts of the bank itself, are as much the instruments of the Federal Government for fiscal purposes as the courts are its instruments for judicial purposes. Marshall, C. J., in delivering the opinion of the court, says that "the means employed by the United States government were given by the people of all the States, and that therefore, the people of a single State cannot confer a sovereignty which will extend over them;" and the Baltimore case expressly decided that a note of the United States Bank was one of the modes or means employed by the Federal government, to execute its power to borrow money upon the public credit. But the circulating notes of the United States Bank were no more a means for the purpose mentioned than are the shares of stock in national banks. A tax upon the shares of stock against the individual stockholders, results the same as a tax upon the capital stock of the bank against the bank itself, and as much impairs the efficiency of the instrument, as a tax upon the bank as such; and is a direct, positive, and may be effectual impediment to the free exercise by Congress of those powers so vitally necessary to the preservation of the Union. Upon this branch of the case, it can make no difference whether the stockholders are owners of the bonds forming the capital of the bank, or whether it is the corporation that owns them; if the result of the tax is the same, it would be void in the one case as it is in the other.

This tax is a tax upon property. It is not a tax upon the mere scrip of the stockholders, but it is a tax upon the stock itself. Now we would inquire, what is the property which is thus taxed? The capital of the bank is entirely invested in government securities. It owns no other property; and therefore the property of the individual stockholder which is taxed, is simply his interest in the government securities, comprising the sum total of the capital of the bank. The incorporators of national banks are required to state in their certificate of incorporation the amount of capital stock, and the number of shares into which the same shall be divided. (Section 6 of National Banking Act.) Now, it will be undisputed, that a tax against the bank upon its capital, in its aggregate form, would be unconstitutional, because it would impede the power of Congress to borrow money; and yet it is argued that a tax upon the same capital in another form, *i. e.*, when divided among the stockholders, is legal, notwithstanding it has precisely the same result of impeding the power of Congress, as a tax against the bank itself. It can make no possible difference, upon principle, or in the ultimate results, upon the power of Congress to borrow money, whether the tax is imposed upon the bank directly or upon the individual stockholders, the thing is the same in both instances. If it was an impediment to the power of Congress to borrow money, for the State of Maryland to impose a stamp tax upon the circulating notes of the United States Branch Bank, because the United States Bank was a means employed to execute the powers of Congress to borrow money upon the public credit, it is for the same reason an impediment to allow the States to impose a tax upon these shares of stock in this bank. The circulating notes were not indispensable to the existence of the United States Bank. The Bank could have done business and existed without them; but here these shares of stock are indispensable to this bank, the bank can be organized by a single individual, under the statute. It requires at least five persons to form one of these associations, and their interests must be kept in the form of shares of the capital stock. It is true, that for certain purposes there may be a distinction drawn between the capital of a bank and the shares of its respective stockholders. Married women might not be able to form a corporation, yet they could take and hold the stock of the corporation. It is the substance and not the mere form that creates the prohibition. Could anything be more absurd than to say, you shall not tax the capital stock of a bank, because you may destroy it, but you may tax the individual holders of the same stock without limit or control, even though by so doing you may accomplish the injury to the general government, that would result from a tax directly against the bank itself?

It cannot be denied that the power to tax, once admitted, is unlimited, and we affirm that a State law which imposes a tax upon any of the national institutions is clearly repugnant to the law establishing such institutions; and it is a rule that "a law absolutely repugnant to another as entirely repeals that other, as if express terms of repeal were used." (4 Wheat., 428.)

It is submitted that this case rests on the principles laid down in the Maryland case by Chief Justice Marshall (Case cited at length.)

State sovereignty is supreme power, and it is clear that the government or any one State in no manner extends over the property included in this tax. These banks do not hold the grants of their franchise by State authority, nor are they introduced by State permission. From no State law, power or functionary do they borrow "leave to be," nor can they be excluded by any such power, operating directly upon them, or indirectly, through taxation. No law of the State can add to or take from them powers or rights, and no act of the Legislature can affect them one way or the other, and especially to their injury, as instruments of the Federal Government. It cannot be denied that the banks are authorized by the Federal Government as one of its fiscal means of sustaining its own operations. It has long been considered by many that it was the constitutional duty of the government to regulate the currency of the country. All other constitutional governments assume it as a prime necessity that they should establish a sound and uniform currency. The constitution grants Congress the exclusive right to "coin money and regulate the value thereof," and forbids the States from emitting bills of credit, and make anything but gold and silver a legal tender. It has been claimed that these terms prevent the organization or chartering of State banks. That in consequence of Congress failing to exercise the powers thus conferred, we have never had a uniform or sound currency, and that the evils resulting have been of great detriment to the country at large. Whether this be so or not, one thing is certain, that the financial necessities of the government, consequent upon a state of war, have obliged the issue of vast amounts of government bonds, the credit of which must be sustained. The government was compelled to establish a banking system of its own, and one which has thus far worked much benefit, both to the government and the people at large, and we are confident that this court will not feel disposed to pronounce a judgment, the effect of which will inevitably destroy the entire system in its infancy, unless the law of the land sternly demands it.

The right of taxation is an incident of sovereignty, and the right of legislation is coextensive with the indebtedness, to attach it upon all property within the jurisdiction of a State. But in our system of government there are, of necessity, limitations upon that right. There is a concurrent right of legislation in the States, and in the United States, except as both are restrained by the Constitution of the United States. Section eight of the first article of the constitution to have seventeen subdivisions, each one of which contains a grant of one or more powers to Congress, all of which are to be exclusively exercised by it; except by the tenth section of the same article Congress may give permission to the States to levy imposts or duties on imports or on tonnage; to keep troops and ships of war in time of peace; to enter into an agreement or compact with another State or foreign Power; and to engage in war; but without such express permission of Congress, the States have no authority to interfere with any of the powers granted to Congress. Among these powers exclusively vested in Congress, is the power to "borrow money upon the credit of the United States," and the States are restrained by such prohibitions as are necessarily implied when the exercise of a right by the United States conflicts with the free and perfect execution of another sovereign power delegated to the United States. That conflict occurs when taxation by a State acts upon the instruments or means or persons which the general government may use or employ, as a necessary or proper mode of executing its sovereign powers. Congress may, therefore, impose no duties on imports or tonnage, &c., but no express or implied power can be found in the constitution granting to Congress the right to waive a constitutional immunity attached by the constitution itself to all government securities.

It is clear that the sovereign jurisdiction of this State does not extend to the State of Ohio, and that Congress cannot confer any sovereign power upon a State, over subjects within the sovereign jurisdiction of another power; but the sovereignty of the United States is as distinct from the sovereignty of New-York as are the two sovereignties of Ohio and New-York. A national bank located in New-York is subject to the sovereignty of the national government, and Congress would have the same right to say to Ohio, you may tax national banks or their stockholders located in New-York, as it would to grant the power claimed to be given by this statute. No! these national banks and their stockholders, as respects their stock, are as much without the territorial jurisdiction of this State as the United States Bank was in the Maryland or Ohio case, as the United States bonds in the Charleston case, as the importer in the Maryland case, as the salary in the case of the master of the revenue cutter, and as the bank stock in the New-York cases.

It is submitted that there is no real distinction between a tax upon the use made of these bonds and a tax upon the bonds themselves. There is no difference in the practical operation of the two taxes. The attempted distinction is but a disguise thrown about the case to elude detection. The true test is to consider the effect upon the power granted to Congress to borrow money for the support of the government. The objects committed by the constitution to the general government are of immense magnitude, and require corresponding means. Of all the modes of raising money for the maintenance of our government, that of borrowing money upon the public credit is the most ready, fruitful, least oppressive, and we may add, is absolutely indispensable; and of all species of taxation, that which lays its hand in any manner upon this power of Congress is the most hurtful and destructive to our government. It was sound policy, therefore, for the framers of the constitution to cherish and protect this power, by proper prohibition.

But it is said that the privilege of using these bonds for banking purposes should be paid for to the people of the State—as though the people of the State conferred the privilege. The people of a State are entitled to no compensation for a franchise granted by the people of the United States.

Sixth—Admitting for the moment that Congress may grant permission to the States to tax these shares of stock, and that such permission is fully granted by the 41st section of the act of June, 1864, yet there is provided in the same section an express condition to the exercise of that right, which under the existing laws of the State utterly prohibits the levying of this tax. The language is, "Provided, That the tax so imposed under the laws of any State upon the shares of the associations authorized under this act, shall not exceed the rate imposed upon the shares in any of the banks organized under the authority of the State where such association is located." Now construing this language strictly, the condition provided is not performed by the State, as there is no law in this State imposing any tax whatever upon the shares of stock in State banks. The question on this branch of the case is the same as on the other branch, viz.: one of intention. What, we ask, did Congress intend by inserting this proviso or condition? what mischief was it of State legislation that Congress designed to defeat? what protection to National Banks did Congress expect to afford? Why did they insert the condition at all, but for the express and only purpose of placing these National Banks on as favorable a footing as State banks? It is too plain for argument, that the intention was that a National Bank, of a given capital, should not be required by the States to pay twice the amount of State taxation, that a State bank standing by the side of it pays with a like capital. It is presumed that the taxing officers conform to the judgment of this court, in the bank tax case, in 2 Wallace, by deducting from the valuation of State banks the amount of their capital invested in government securities. If Congress intended anything, it certainly intended to prevent just such inconsistencies as have occurred all over the State of New-York. In the same city in which this bank is located, we have one State bank with a capital of $600,000, which is assessed this year upon a valuation of $158,000; another of $400,000 capital, which is assessed upon a valuation of $155,000; and another of a capital of $125,000, assessed upon a value of $55,000, because they have invested the greater part of their capital in government securities; while this national bank, with a capital of $500,000, all of which is invested in the same securities, is assessed to the full amount of $300,000, by assessing the respective stockholders; and such is the practical result all over the State. If it is competent for the State to tax the shares of national banks, it is certainly both possible and competent for the State to tax the shares of State banks, notwithstanding their capital may be invested in national securities. If the Legislature were really desirous of preventing this large moneyed interest from escaping State taxation, why did they not include in the same section of the Enabling Act, a provision for the taxing of the shares of State as well as national banks? The conclusion is irresistable that the intention of the State Legislature was to place the State banks on a more favorable footing than the national banks as respects the subject of taxation. The provision of the act "that the tax so imposed under the laws of any State, shall not exceed the rate imposed upon the shares in any of the banks organized under the authority of the State," was entirely overlooked or ignored by the court below.

So long as the present system of State taxation of State banks is retained, of taxing the capital of the bank, and not the individual shareholders upon their shares of stock, the State is prohibited by express act of Congress, from imposing taxation upon the individual stockholders of national banks. (See People *ex rel.* Lincoln *vs.* Town of Boston; 29 Howard, 371.)

The points of defendant in error will appear hereafter. The case will likely consume several days in the argument.

Edmonds & Miller, Lyman Tremain, John H. Reynolds, Mr. Sedgwick and Wm. M. Evarts, for stockholders.

LAW REPORTS.

The Martin Case—Habeas Corpus and Certiorari.

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT—SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

Before Judge Shipman.

The case of Robert Martin, who has been under examination for some time back before Commissioner Osborne, and who was recently committed by the Commissioner to await the action of the Grand Jury, he being charged with being engaged in the incendiary plot to burn the city two years ago, was brought before Judge SHIPMAN this morning, he having yesterday issued a *habeas corpus* to bring Martin before him, and a *certiorari* to bring up the proceedings before Commissioner Osborne for review.

Mr. Larocque appeared in behalf of the petitioner, and the District-Attorney, Mr. Dickinson, appeared for the Marshal, to whom the writ of *habeas corpus* was directed.

The following was the return made on behalf of the Marshal to the *habeas corpus*:

In the matter of the Habeas Corpus in the case of Robt. Martin.—I, Robert Murray, Marshal of the United States for the Southern District of New-York, in answer and return to the writ of *habeas corpus* issued by this honorable court, do hereby state and return:

That the said Robert Martin is now imprisoned and detained by me, and was at the time of the issuing of said writ, by virtue of the warrant and authority duly and lawfully issued by John A. Osborne, Esq., one of the Commissioners, a copy of which said warrant and authority is hereto annexed. ROBT. MURRAY.

Sworn to before me this 2d day of February, 1866.

R. E. STILWELL,
United States Commissioner.

The warrant was then produced which was attached to the return, was one issued by Commissioner Osborne, directed to the Marshal, and directing the arrest of Martin on a charge of willfully engaging in giving aid and comfort to the rebellion, and knowingly attempting to destroy certain public records of the United States.

The warrant had indorsed upon it the direction of the Government for money in times of peace or war, that fixes the obligation to pay such taxes as may be imposed by lawful authority.

In regard to the *certiorari* Mr. Dickinson claimed that it had no power to bring up any proceedings of a Commissioner, but that on such proceedings the Commissioner was of equal authority with the Judge, and that he might as well issue a *certiorari* to bring before him for review similar proceedings when taken before a judge, as a judge could issue one to bring up his proceedings.

No argument was had in either matter, but both were put over till Thursday next.

The Case of Chas. H. Coles, a Fort Lafayette Prisoner.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS—FEB. 3.

Before Justice Sutherland.

Maj.-Gen. Hooker yesterday made the following sworn amended return to the writ of *habeas corpus* in the case of Chas. H. Coles, full particulars of which have been published in the TIMES:

In the Matter of the Habeas Corpus of Chas. H. Coles.—To the Supreme Court of the State of New-York: I, Joseph Hooker, do certify to this honorable court, in answer and return to the writ of *habeas corpus* issued herein, that I have not always, and I have, the said Chas. H. Coles, the person named in said writ, at the time of the issuing of the said writ, in my custody, care, charge, disposition or control, or under my power or restraint. For these reasons I cannot produce the said Coles before this honorable court.

Signed and sworn to by JOSEPH HOOKER.

After reading the amended return, counsel for the prisoner traversed the same, and an issue of fact being thereby formed, Mr. Brewster was appointed referee to take testimony. The further hearing before the court stands adjourned to Saturday next.

Decisions.

SUPREME COURT—GENERAL TERM—FEB. 3.

Present, G. G. Barnard, P. J., and Ingraham and Clerke, J. J.

John W. Schulter *vs.* Rachel A. Anderson; judgment modified according to opinion without costs; opinion by Barnard J., Wm. Baldwin et al. *vs.* the Mayor, &c.; order appealed from affirmed with costs; Welles, J. dissenting. E. J. Genet *vs.* G. R. Beekman et al.; judgment affirmed with costs; opinion by Leonard, J. Victor B. Depievios *vs.* James T. Pettus et al.; judgment modified so as to enjoin J. T. Pettus from engaging in or carrying on the business, and the other defendants from carrying on such business with him, and to such extent affirmed. The Wardens and Vestry of St. James Church *vs.* the Rector, &c., of the Church of the Redeemer; judgment affirmed with costs; opinion by Leonard, J. The Artisans' Bank *vs.* Chas. C. Backus; judgment affirmed with costs; opinion by all the Judges, Ingraham, J., dissenting.

The following cases argued in the January Term, before Barnard, Ingraham and Clerke, JJ.: George W. Gail *vs.* Joseph Schider, and in the matter of the application of Mortimer Livingston et al. for removal of D. C. Stoddard, trustee, &c.; order in each case affirmed with $10 costs; opinion by Clerke, J., Ingraham, J., dissenting. James Brookfield *vs.* Samuel Ten Eyck; order affirmed with $10 costs; opinion by Ingraham, J. The Grocers' National Bank *vs.* George A. Clarke; order affirmed, but amount reduced to $20,000; opinion by Clerke, J. Andrew Lawrence *vs.* A. R. L. Norton et al.; decree of Surrogate reversed, and case remitted to the Surrogate, with directions to admit will (to probate); opinion by Ingraham, J. Clark C. Ward *vs.* John M. Remsen; judgment affirmed, with costs; opinion by Clerke, J. The East River Bank *vs.* S. T. Butterworth; judgment reversed and new trial ordered; costs to abide the event; opinion by Ingraham, J. Alexander Bonnell *vs.* A. T. Briggs; judgment reversed and new trial ordered; costs to abide the event; opinion by Clerke, J. The same *vs.* the same; same decision.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS—FEB. 6.

By Justice Sutherland.

In the Matter of the Petition of the Administrators, &c., of John Conway, for the performance of contract, &c.; report confirmed and order granted. Chas. J. Spence et al. *vs.* Hester Ann Gooderson et al.; judgment order granted. In the Matter of the Petition of Blanche Mollan et al.; report confirmed and order granted.

By Justice Barnard.

Livingston *vs.* Joseph P. Flynn; motion granted.

COMMON PLEAS—SPECIAL TERM—FEB. 3.

By Judge Brady.

Goldsmith *vs.* Masuel; motion granted, but without costs; the undertaking having been approved by a Justice of the Marine Court, and the justification having been allowed, though it would seem irregularly; the requisite bonding means. Of all the modes of raising money for the maintenance of our government, that of borrowing money upon the public credit is the most ready, fruitful, least oppressive, and we may add, is absolutely indispensable; and of all species of taxation, that which lays its hand in any manner upon this power of Congress is the most hurtful and destructive to our government. It was sound policy, therefore, for the framers of the constitution to cherish and protect this power, by proper prohibition.

But it is said that the privilege of using these bonds for banking purposes should be paid for to the people of the State—as though the people of the State conferred the privilege. The people of a State are entitled to no compensation for a franchise granted by the people of the United States.

John Doelly, convicted of having had in his possession a quantity of counterfeit money, was sentenced to be imprisoned three years at hard labor in the Albany Penitentiary and to pay a fine of $1.

F. J. Lacey, convicted of passing a counterfeit $50 bill, was sentenced to be imprisoned at hard labor in the Albany Penitentiary for eighteen months, and to pay a fine of $1.

James Wilkinson and Michael Dunn, who pleaded guilty of stealing from the Navy Yard, were sentenced each to ten days, imprisonment in the Kings County jail.

Philip Hanley, indicted for a similar offence, withdrew his plea of not guilty, and pleading guilty was sentenced to pay a fine of $25 and stand committed till it was paid.

In the cases of Gustav Swechise, convicted of making counterfeit money, and John H. O. Dunnell, convicted of passing it, sentence was postponed.

MONETARY AFFAIRS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange—FEB. 3, 1866.

$11,500 U. S. 6s,'81 R....	104	500 Mariposa Min.....	11
14,000 U. S. 6s,'67.....	104	100 Mariposa Pref.....	15
12,000 U. S. 6s '81 C.....	105⅜	200 Schuylkill C.....	16½
6,000 U.S.6s,5-20s.C.'62	103	12 N. Y. Cen.....	87⅜
3,000 do.....s3	103	100 do.....s3	87⅝
150,000 U.S.6s,5-20s.C.'64	102	200 do.....s60	88⅛
8,000 U.S.6s,5-20s.R.'64	102½	200 do.....s5	88⅜
14,000 U.S.6s,5-20s.C.'65	102½	100 do..2d call.blk	88⅜
10,500 U. S. 5s, 10-40s.C.	93⅝	400 do.....	88⅜
10,000 do.....	94	100 Erie Railroad.....c	77⅞
11,000 do.....	94½	100 do.....b10	77⅞
11,000 Tr. Notes, 7.3-10s.		100 do.....c	77⅝
First Series.....	99⅛	260 Hud. Riv. R.....	100
10,000 do.....	99⅛	1600 Reading R.....s10	99⅝
10,000 do..2d Ser.	99	1000 do.....c	99⅝
10,000 do..3d Ser.	99	200 do.....s30	99⅝
3,000 U. S. 6s, 1 yr. C.		500 do.....b3	99⅝
New Issue.....	98⅝	100 do.....s10	99⅝
18,000 N. Y. St. 7s, Bounty Loan.....	99½	100 Mich. Cen. R.....s10	89⅜
3,000 do.....	99⅝	400 M. S. & N. I.....b5	69⅛
2,000 do.....	99⅝	50 do.....s10	69½
5,000 Virginia 6s.'73.....	66	100 do.....3d call	69½
5,000 Virginia 6s.....	66	100 Ill. Cen. R.....s30	115
5,000 N. Car. 6s.....	88	200 Cleve. & Pitts.....	82⅛
2,000 Oregon War L'n, Half year.....	101⅛	1000 do.....s10	82⅜
2,000 Hud. Riv. 1st M.	100	200 do.....s30	82⅜
2,000 Hud. R. 2d S. F. Bs	10 ⅛	600 Chic. & N. W.....	28⅛
1,000 do.....	105⅝	150 Chi. & N. W. Pr....	54⅜
5,000 Harlem 1st M.....	100	100 do.....b10	54⅜
1,000 Chi. & N. W. Int.	82	500 Clev. & Tol.....	106
1,000 P., Ft. W. & C. 2d.	97⅛	200 Chi. & R. I.....	102⅝
2,000 Am. Gold.....	97⅜	200 do.....b10	100⅝
25 Shoe & L. Bank.....	102	100 do.....s10	100⅝
50 North River Bank.	120	400 do.....c	100⅝
5 Exp. & Trad. Bank	100	100 do..2d call	100⅝
27 Fourth Nat. Bank	98	33 Del., Lack. & W.	145
100 Cen. National B'k..	109	36 New-Jersey Cen.....	114
100 Cen. Coal Co.....	40⅝	180 P., Ft. W. & C.....	96⅝
100 Cumb. Coal Co.....	44⅞	200 do.....s15	97⅛
100 Western U. Tel.....	56	100 do.....	98
100 do.....	56⅛	500 Chic. & Alt.....	116⅛
50 do.....	56⅜	100 do.....	117
25 do.....	56½	200 Chic. & Alt. Pf..	116⅛

1 O'CLOCK BOARD.

$20,000 U.S.5s,10-40s.C.	94	300 Erie R.....	77⅞
2,000 West. U. Teleg'h..	57	300 do.....	77⅞
100 do.....	56	200 do.....	77⅛
100 Quicksilver Min. Co.	4	1500 Cleve. & P.....	81⅝
100 Mar. Mining Co.....	10⅝	200 do.....s10	81
100 New-York Cen.....	88⅛	1300 do.....	82⅝
100 do.....s30	87⅞	100 Hudson River.....	100⅝
400 do.....	88	100 Chi. & N.W. Pr....	54⅛

2½ O'CLOCK BOARD.

$3,000 U. S. 6s, '81, Co.	104	100 Pacific M. S. Co....	185
10,000 U. S. 6s, '81, R.	103⅝	200 N. Y. Central.....	87⅝
10,000 U.S.6s,5-20s.C.'62	102½	100 do.....s10	87⅝
21,000 U.S.6s,5-20s.C.'65	102⅛	100 P., F. W. & C.....	97⅜
5,000 Tr. Notes, 7.3-10s		100 do.....s10	97⅜
First Series.....	99⅞	100 Mil. & P. du C.....	90½
1,000 U. S. 6s, 1 yr. Cer. New Issue.....	98⅛	200 Erie Railroad.....	77⅞
2,000 Missouri 6s.....	76½	1200 do.....c	77⅞
2,000 N.Y.St.7s, Bounty Loan.....	99⅜	500 do..2d call	77⅞
30,000 C. S. M. Cer....	25	100 Hud. R. R.....	100
5,000 Mich. So. & N. I. R.	93	100 Reading R.....s10	99
20 West. Union Tel....	57⅛	200 do.....c	99⅛
100 do.....s5	56	200 do.....s10	99⅛
100 Quick. Min. Co.....	4	100 do.....s10	99⅛
100 Mariposa Min.....	11	34 Chic. & N. W.....	27¾
100 Mariposa Pref.....	15	20 Chi. & N.W. Prf....	54
80 Del. & Hud. Canal	125	100 Chic. & R. I.....	99⅝
100 Canton Co.....s60	44	100 do.....	99⅝

OPEN BOARD—10 A. M.

100 Canton Co.....	44	200 Clev. & Pitts...x-d	82⅛
126 Schuylkill Coal....	16⅛	600 do.....c	82⅛
100 do.....s3	61⅛	1000 do.....b3	82⅛
200 Wolf Cr. D. C.....	1	1000 do.....c	82⅛
200 do.....b30	97	500 do.....s30	82⅛
200 N. Y. Cen. R...x-d	87	200 do.....b3	82⅛
800 Erie R.....x-d	77⅛	400 do.....s3	82⅛
100 do.....s3	77⅛	200 do.....c	82⅛
100 do.....b3	77⅛	1600 do.....s	82⅛
100 do.....c	77⅛	500 do.....b10	82⅛
600 do.....c	78	400 do.....c	82⅛
600 do.....b3	78	500 do.....s30	82⅛
400 do.....s3	77⅛	400 do.....b3	82⅛
100 do.....c	77⅛	600 do.....s10	82⅛
200 do.....s5	77⅛	300 Chi. & R. I.....	99⅝
100 Hud. R. R.....	100	300 Chic. & N.W.....	27⅛
100 do.....s3	98⅝	300 do.....b5	28
100 do.....b3	54⅝	100 do.....b3	28
100 Chi. & N.W. P....	54⅝	100 do.....s5	27⅞
100 do.....b3	54⅝

DRY GOODS

GREAT SALE OF MUSLINS,
AND RAILROAD BARGAINS!
TREMENDOUS EXCITEMENT,
And a Great Rush
For Cheap MUSLINS.
Store crowded from
9 o'clock in the MORGING
till 6 in the EVENING.
The Rush so Great, we
are compelled to lock
THE DOORS IN THE AFTERNOON,
AND ADMIT ONLY A FEW
CUSTOMERS AT A TIME.
All caused
BY SELLING BEST MUSLINS
BELOW REGULAR RETAIL PRICES.
CHEAP GOODS
And Store Crowded.
LOOKS BETTER THAN DEAR GOODS
And Salesmen idle,
IF OUR PROFITS ARE SMALL.
Also, WET GOODS, comprising
LINEN TOWELS, WHITE FLANNELS,
CRASHES, HANDKERCHIEFS, &c., &c.,
FROM AUCTION.
The above goods
To be sold for CASH.
The MUSLINS were bought
During the GREAT PANIC
OF LAST WEEK.
N. B.—No old Stock to
Rush off on Customers

We call particular attention to the Muslins we offer this week. They are now 12½ cents a yard cheaper than they were a month ago, and have already COMMENCED TO ADVANCE. The prospects are that those who want Muslins this Spring will SAVE money by buying them at our prices, AT ONCE, at once,
BUY YOUR MUSLINS OF US
and save 10 cents a yard.
FOSTER BROTHERS, No. 273 Bleecker-st.

CLOSING OUT SALE
FOR
THIRTY DAYS.
580 ps. VELVET RIBBON, at 50c. per piece, worth $1 00
500 ps. VELVET RIBBON, at 75c. per piece, worth 1 25
500 ps. VELVET RIBBON, at $1 per piece, worth 2 00
300 ps. VELVET RIBBON, at $2 per piece, worth 4 00
FANCY RIBBONS,
SUITABLE FOR SASHES, SCARFS, TIES, &c.
200 ps. RIBBON, at 10 cents per yard, worth 25 cents.
500 ps. RIBBON, at 25 cents per yard, worth 75 cents.
600 ps. RIBBON, at 3 shillings per yard, worth 7 shill's.
100 ps. RIBBON, at 50 cents per yard, worth $1 00
200 ps. RIBBON, at $1 per yard, worth $1 50.
REMNANTS.
VELVETS, SILK, SATIN and PLUSHES,
Selling off at less than HALF PRICE!
Real Valenciennes LACES, Black Tread and Guipure,
at COST PRICE!
FRENCH FLOWERS for Bonnets and the Hair,
Closing out regardless of COST!
200 Linen Collars and Sleeves at 50c. per set, worth $1 25.
100 dozen Linen Hemstitched Handkerchiefs at 50 cents.
CORSETS reduced from $1 50 to $1 50.
DRESS TRIMMINGS, ORNAMENTS, BUTTONS,
All at Reduced Prices.
BOOTH & BLUXOME,
No. 1,127 BROADWAY, between 25th and 26th sts.

OPERA CLOAKS
AND BALL DRESSES.
A rich variety, at retail.
A. T. STEWART & CO.,
Broadway and 10th-st,

CLUNY LACES.
The latest Paris novelties in
LACE-TRIMMED SETS,
JUPONS, CHEMISES,
TIDIES, CUSHIONS, OTTOMANS, &c.
Just received, at retail,
A. T. STEWART & CO.,
Broadway and 10th-st.

CHECKED, STRIPED AND PLAID
SILKS.
SPRING STYLES.
A. T. STEWART & CO.,
Broadway and 10th-st.

CARPETS, LINENS,
UPHOLSTERY AND HOUSEKEEPING GOODS
AT POPULAR PRICES.
A. T. STEWART & CO.,
Broadway and 10th-st.

FOSTER & WELSH,
AT THEIR NEW STORE ARE OFFERING
BLACK ALPACAS WORTH 50c. at 4 0.
BLACK ALPACAS WORTH 65c. at 50c.
BLACK ALPACAS WORTH 75c. at 62½c.
BLACK ALPACAS WORTH 90c. at 75c.
EXTRA FINE QUALITY VERY CHEAP.
BALMORAL SKIRTS
AT $2 50 WORTH $3.
AT $3 WORTH $4.
THE BEST $4 WORTH $5.
ALSO, ALL OUR BEST DELAINES, 37½c.
ALSO, BEST PLUSH CANTON FLANNEL, 37½c.
AN AUCTION LOT TABLE LINEN, CHEAP.
A LARGE LOT OF WET TOWELS.
AN ENTIRE NEW STOCK OF SPRING PRINTS.
FOR GOOD GOODS AT LOW PRICES, GO TO
FOSTER & WELSH.
No. 227 8TH-AV., near 23D-ST.

MUSLINS! MUSLINS!! MUSLINS!!!
AS WE PREDICTED LAST WEEK
MUSLINS HAVE AGAIN COMMENCED TO AD-
VANCE. WE HAVE BOUGHT LARGELY, AND
FOR THE PRESENT WE SHALL SELL THEM
WITHOUT ANY ADVANCE IN PRICE.
NOTICE THE PRICES GIVEN BELOW.
HEAVY AND FINE BROWN MUSLINS, 25c.
BEST QUALITY YARD WIDE BROWN, 31c.
HANDSOME SHEETING, WIDE WHITE, 22c.
EXTRA QUALITY, WIDE 31c.
GOOD YARD WIDE WHITE, 28c.
EXTRA QUALITIES, YARD WIDE, 37½c.
FOSTER & WELSH, No. 227 8TH-AV.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
OUR PRESENT STOCK OF MOURNING GOODS
will be offered for the next 30 days at a great reduction,
previous to receiving our Spring importations. The stock
comprises everything desirable for mourning, at prices
which must please the most economical.
Handsome Black Colorado, Empress and Crape Cloths
at $8, $9 and $10 per dress.
W. JACKSON, Importer of Mourning Goods,
No. 551 Broadway, between Prince and Spring-sts.

BEADS BEADS!! BEADS!!!
AND FANCY GOODS.
M. P. BROWN, Importer,
No. 1,045 Peaudet., New-Ye

AN ELEGANT ASSORTMENT OF
FRENCH OPERA CLOAKS
at CHARLOTTE G. SMITH'S, No. 1,142 Broadway.

DESPRES,
MANUFACTURER OF FIRST QUALITY GLOVES.
No. 89 Rue Richelieu, Paris.

COUNTRY MERCHANTS, MILLINERS
AND DRESS MAKERS SUPPLIED AT LESS THAN JOB-
BERS' PRICES, BY
SAMUEL TUCK,
No. 727 Broadway, corner of Waverley-place.
In consequence of retiring from the retail trade some
remarkably cheap job lots will be offered, to which special
attention is directed.
Stock, fixtures, good will and lease for sale.

AT GEORGE KEYES', 343 EIGHTH-
AVENUE, for a few days only, great sale of bleached and
unbleached shirting and sheeting, muslins, prints, ging-
hams, &c. Good muslins 25 cents, worth 31; 31, worth
37½; 36, worth 40; 37½, worth 44; 44, worth 50; from 5 to 10 cents
per yard below wholesale prices, and at present lower
than they may be in the coming spring.

SHEETINGS, SHIRTINGS AND PRINTS
At very reduced prices, at LAMBERT'S, 523 Green-
wich-st. The best 7-8 shirting, 31c.; the best 4-4, 37½c.
Also, all the best prints for 25c.

TO LET.

TO LET—AT BELLEVILLE, N. J., A FAMILY
hotel or boarding-house, having 25 rooms, situated on
the main street running along the west bank of the
Passaic River, and near the terminus of the Newark
horse-railroad, and connecting with New-York every
hour. Apply to J. W. DOW, Belleville, or to T. B. COD-
DINGTON, No. 78 Broad-st., New-York.

COUNTRY RESIDENCE TO LET—SITU-
ated in Westchester County, and six miles from Har-
lem River, and two miles from railroad depot; contains
about 8 acres of land outbuildings, and six acres of land
well stocked with fruit; rent $700 per annum: possession
April 1. Inquire of WARD & GOVE, No. 193 Broadway.

TO LET—ON BROOME-ST., NEAR BROAD-
way, a suit of lofts about 50 feet front on a corner,
with good light. Also a four-story building on Crosby-
st., near Broome. For particulars apply to JAMES M.
TAYLOR, No. 37 Pine-st.

FURNISHED HOUSE TO RENT, IN COM-
plete order, 35th-st., between 5th and 6th avs., to a
small family; rent, $250 per month; immediate possession.
Inquire of W. S. HUMPHREYS, No. 724 Broad-
way.

TO LET, FURNISHED—A DESIRABLE
dwelling on 30th-st., between 5th and Madison avs.,
in complete order; possession immediate, or 1st May.
Apply to ROBERT ABBATT, No. 15 Livingston-place.

TO LEASE FOR THREE YEARS FROM
May 1, the four lofts of the store corner of Warren-
st. and Broadway. Apply on the premises, to DEVLIN
& CO., or to JOHN ILOYD & SONS, No. 16 Nassau-st.

TO LET—STORE ON BROADWAY, NEAR 29TH-
st.; three-story and cellar; 20 feet front; $2,000 to
rent, $2,000. Inquire at WILMURT'S, No. 706 Broadway.

TO LET, CHEAP—A LARGE ROOM, HIGH
ceilings, fifteen windows. A. H. KEECH, corner
Theatre-alley and Ann-st.

TO LET—THE UPPER PART OF THE BUILD-
ing No. 331 Canal-st., corner of Greene-st., three
floors, suitable for business. Apply in the store.

STORE AND BASEMENT NO. 115 LEON-
ard-st. to let. Possession now. Apply on the prem-
ises.

HOUSES & ROOMS WANTED.

WANTED TO LEASE—FOR TWO OR THREE
years, a first-class furnished house, in a desirable lo-
cation, by a responsible party, who will take the best
care of the property. This affords an excellent oppor-
tunity for families about visiting Europe. A fancy rent
will be paid. Address, with particulars of location,
rent, &c., S. R. J., Box No. 180 Times Office.

HOUSE WANTED—FURNISHED OR UN-
furnished, in the neighborhood of Washington
Heights or Carmanville; must have six bedrooms and
servant's room; would be taken by the year. Apply by
letter, stating rent, &c., H. M. N., Post-office, Box 3,492.

HOUSE WANTED—BY A PRIVATE FAMILY,
on or before May next, in a good locality, between
35th and 43d sts., west of 7th-av. Rent not to exceed
$1,000. Address with particulars, size of house, rent,
&c., H. M., Box 136 Times office.

A PLEASANT FAMILY, WISHING TO
rent a roomy, comfortable and very accessible house
in Brooklyn, and willing to board the family of the own-
er, three in number, can address HOUSE, No. 72 Cedar-
st., New-York.

HOUSES WANTED—BETWEEN TENTH AND
50th sts., both first-class and middling. Also, desir-
able suburban residences, of easy access to the city.
PARSONS & WARD, No. 39 Cedar-st.

FACTORY WANTED—A LARGE FACTORY,
or suite of lots, with or without steam power, in New-
York City; immediate possession of part, if not the
whole, required. Address JNO. C. KELLEY, care Geo.
Moore & Co., No. 10 Park-place.

WANTED—A STORE (WHOLE BUILDING) BE-
tween Duane and Fulton sts.; must be well built and
substantial. Address Box No. 726 Post-office.

BOARDING AND LODGING.

BOARDING.—PARLOR AND TWO BEDROOMS
adjoining, suitable for three persons; also, pleasant
rooms for gentleman and wife, or single gentlemen, at
No. 34 West 20th-st.

A MAGNIFICENT SUITE OF ROOMS
with first-class board, can be had with a private fam-
ily in 5th-av., the finest locality; unexceptionable refer-
ences. Apply at the drug store, corner Broadway and
8th-st.

TO RENT—WITH BOARD, A LARGE PARLOR
and extension room, suitable for a gentleman and
wife, or three single gentlemen; house first-class; price
moderate. Apply at No. 75 7th-st.

FOR SALE.

STORE PROPERTY FOR SALE,
BY ALLEN & BROWN, NO. 96 BROADWAY.
On Broadway, near Grand-st.
On Broadway, near Broome-st., white marble front.
On Dey-st., near Broadway.
On Greenwich and Duane-st.
On White-st., near Broadway.
On Franklin-st., near Broadway.
On Beaver-st., near William-st.
Corner of William and Liberty-sts.
On Franklin, White, Walker, Lispenard, Canal,
Broome and Prince.

UNION-SQUARE PROPERTY.
Two splendid lots on 14th-st., near Union-square, for sale
or to lease, suitable for dry goods.
Also, Broadway property for sale.
ALVAH BEEBE,
No. 117 Nassau-st., Offices Nos. 28 and 29.

FOR SALE—THE HOUSE AND LOT NO. 184
Division-st., with alley in Norfolk-st. Terms easy.
Apply to JOHN R. CONNER, No. 31 New Canal-st.

FOR SALE AT BEVERLY, MASS.—"THE
Old Burley Estate."—The house of brick, three stories,
containing two large parlors, dining-room, two kitchens,
nine sleeping rooms, with furnace and gas; a large two-
story shed and outbuildings attached, with well and
cistern under cover; stable and carriage-house lately fit-
ted up in good style; about 8½ acres of land in high cul-
tivation, well stocked with choice fruit, pears, apples,
grapes, strawberries, &c., in bearing.
Beverly is upon the sea-shore, just beyond Nahant, an
hour's ride by rail from Boston, noted for its healthy
position, fine fishing, rides and sea views; is much
sought as a summer resort by the Bostonians; the house
is in good repair, furnished ready to occupy; price
$12,000.
J. M. LOVETT,
No. 29 Wall-st., Room No. 4.

FOR SALE IN BROOKLYN—THE NEAT
two-story and attic house with basements and under-
cellar (frame filled in with brick) on Bedford-av., between
Myrtle and Willoughby avs. Price, $4,000.
Also, a similar house on Franklin-av., between Wil-
loughby and DeKalb-avs. Price, $4,000.
Also, two cottage brick houses on Monroe-st., near
Marcy-av. Price, $3,000 each.
Also, the cottage and lots adjoining. Price, $3,500.
Inquire of ALLEN & BROWN, No. 96 Broadway, New-
York.

FOR SALE—A COUNTRY RESIDENCE OF 12
acres within a short distance of the New-Haven and
Harlem Railroads, and 18 miles from the city; a new
house 36x48, piazza front and rear 8ft., with kitchen at-
tached 16x18; barn, grist and saw mill, with other out-
houses; also an ice-house renting for $187 per annum; a
beautiful lake on the place. The furniture will be sold if
desired. For particulars refer to ISAAC DURYEE, No.
172 Monroe-st., New-York.

GRAND HOTEL—CENTRAL PARK—120 FEET
east of 5th-av.—Opposite main entrance to the Grand
Hotel, (which is to be the finest on this continent, to
cover a whole square, and to be commenced immediate-
ly,) ten lots for sale cheap; or owner will retain one or two
lots for his own residence, if sold to parties who will
build immediately, as he cannot purchase as eligible
property on the 5th-av. Apply to OWNER, No. 19
Broad-st., Room No. 36, from 11 to 1 o'clock daily.

A RARE CHANCE TO THOSE ABOUT
A PURCHASING COUNTRY REAL ESTATE.—For
sale at Sangerties, on the Hudson, with easy access to
New-York City, a fine first-class modern built brick house, with
three-fourths of an acre of ground, containing fruit,
shrubbery, &c., and commanding a beautiful river and
mountain view; terms easy. Apply to L. B. SEAMAN,
No. 61 Pine-st., New-York.

ORANGE, N. J.—TO LET—HANDSOME HOUSE
and grounds, two acres; fruit, shrubbery, fine stable,
cow-house and hennery; 5 minutes' walk from depot; 50
minutes from New-York; possession 1st April; rent
$2,000 per annum for sale for $20,000. Apply to H. BLACK-
WELL, No. 59 William-st., before 11 A. M., or No. 49
Main-st., Orange.

FOR SALE—A VERY DESIRABLE SUMMER
residence, of from 1¾ to 2¼ acres, with house ready
furnished and replete with everything for housekeeping,
fronting on the Newark Bay, at Bayonne, within one hour
of Jersey ferry by cars. Sold in consequence of a death
in the family. Particulars may be known by applying at
No. 77 Montgomery-st., Jersey City.

FOR SALE—AT FAIRFIELD, CONN., A DE-
sirable first-class residence, three minutes' walk
from the depot, about twenty acres of ground; all mod-
ern improvements; furnace, hot and cold water, gas, &c.,
all in the outbuildings, including gardener's house.
Apply to I. BUCKINGHAM, No. 17 South-st.

FOR SALE.—THE TWO-STORY AND BASE-
ment house (frame filled in with brick) on 4th-av., be-
tween 86th and 85th sts., near Central Park. Price, $4,500.
Also, the four tenement houses Nos. 161 and 163 Lewis-
st., between 3d and 4th sts.; the rent is $5,000 per year.
Price, $20,000.
Inquire of ALLEN & BROWN, No. 96 Broadway.

FOR SALE—IN BROOKLYN, A PLOT OF
ground containing five full lots, on the northeast cor-
ner of Lafayette-ave. and Franklin-av.; also two lots on Van
Buren-st. and two on Green-av., between Nostrand and
Marcy avs. The above will be sold on favorable terms.
Inquire at No. 8 Baring-slip.

DON'T PAY THE HIGH RENTS.—30 COT-
tages for sale, with five to eight rooms, at $1,300 to
$2,500. Elegant dwellings, with four to eight lots, at
$4,000 to $3,000. Easy payments. CHAS. R. MILLER,
Atlantic-av., East New-York, or No. 9 Willoughby-st.,
Brooklyn.

FOR SALE IN BROOKLYN, E. D.—THE
three-story and basement brick houses Nos. 3 and 7
2d-st., near Broadway; a few minutes' walk from the
ferry. Price, $5,000 each.
Inquire of ALLEN & BROWN, No. 96 Broadway, New-
York.

THIRTY-EIGHTH-STREET, BETWEEN
5th and 6th avs., first-class four-story brown-stone
high-stoop house, cheap with possession. Other lots in
35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42d, 43d, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, from $8,000
to $6,000. Also in 42d and 46th sts., with extra lots and
stables.
W. P. SEYMOUR, No. 171 Broadway.

FOR SALE—TWO FIRST-CLASS STONE
fronts, now finished, Nos. 87 and 89 Woodhull-st.,
South Brooklyn, one-half block south from First-place;
all the modern improvements; first-class surroundings.
Terms easy. Apply at No. 411 Hicks-st., or the stone-yard
corner Rapelyea-st. and Hamilton-av. D. DIXON.

FOR SALE—THE VALUABLE STORE PRO-
perty on Greenwich-st., forming an L on Duane-st.,
built in 1857, four-story and basement brick stores,
connecting with archways; size 75 x 50 on Greenwich-st., inside
of Duane-st., 62x50. For further particulars apply to
ALLEN & BROWN, No. 96 Broadway.

FURNISHED COUNTRY RESIDENCE
to let, with large water front, about 2¼ miles from
Astoria ferry, in the Borough of Queens, L. I.; 75 acres land, choice
fruits, views magnificent; an elegant residence; rent
$3,500 per annum. Apply to HOMER MORGAN, No. 2
Pine-st.

A FIRST-CLASS CORNER HOUSE,
with stable, in a first-rate neighborhood in Brooklyn;
has all the improvements; house 24 feet front, lot 103
feet deep; terms liberal. Apply to E. R. KELLOGG,
c. 139 Pearl-st., New-York.

FOR SALE—THE TWO-STORY, ATTIC AND
basement brick house, No. 55 Henry-st., leasehold
property, with privilege of renewals. Lot 25x100;
house, built by days' work, 25x40, with an extension.
Apply to R. POILLON, No. 224 South-st.

FOR SALE—IN WILLIAMSBURGH, HOUSE
and lot No. 40 South 5th-st.; house two and a half
stories high, basement and sub-cellar; lot 25x102. Also
house and two lots, No. 112 3d-st. Inquire of J. SOW-
DEN, No. 44 Cortlandt-st., New-York.

FOR SALE—SEVERAL FIRST-CLASS RESI-
dences on Murray-hill; house with or without furni-
ture. Also, houses and lots in desirable locations in
the upper part of the city. For particulars apply to
ALLEN & BROWN, No. 96 Broadway.

FOR SALE—ON GRAMMERCY PARK, NORTH
side, an extra wide and deep four-story, brown-stone
house and lot; $45,000 without, or $60,000 with furniture.
Apply to HOMER MORGAN, No. 2 Pine-st.

FOR SALE—THE COMMODIOUS DWELLING-
house (double width) and lots No. 266 West 20th-st.,
opposite the Protestant Episcopal Theological Seminary.
Apply to STURGES, CLEARMAN & CO., 110 Wall-st.

FOR SALE—HOUSES AND LOTS ON 37TH, 38TH,
39th, 41st, 50th, Hammond, Macdougal, Division and
Orchard sts. Apply at No. 192 Broadway, or No. 93 East
37th-st., of PETER & R. JACKSON.

FOR SALE—THE MODERN DWELLINGS NO.
32 2d-st. and Nos. 33 and 39 West Washington-place,
and No. 306 4th-st. on easy terms.
ALVAH BEEBE, No. 117 Nassau-st.

SIX ELIGIBLE LOTS FOR SALE—ON
Ogden and 86th sts., near Madison-av., forming a plot
75 feet front by 100 feet deep; will suit for a church or
other large building. C. & G. WOODMAN, 60 Wall-st.

FOR SALE—THE INTEREST IN THE LEASE
for six years of a store, admirably adapted for a dry-
goods store or a first-class restaurant, with entrance on
two streets; rent low. Apply at No. 125 6th-av.

A LARGE DOUBLE HOUSE, 34 FEET
front, in a first-class neighborhood in Brooklyn;
has all the improvements and is in complete order. Ap-
ply to E. R. KELLOGG, No. 139 Pearl-st., New York.

EXECUTRIX SALE—AT ORANGE, N. J.—A
beautiful estate of 5½ acres, with a house containing
13 rooms; barn, outhouses, &c. Apply to ROWLAND
JOHNSON, No. 54 Beaver-st., New-York.

FOR SALE—AN ELEGANT FIRST CLASS FOUR
story high stoop brown stone front house and lot on
39th-st., between 8th and 6th av., full size lot. For parti-
culars, apply to ALLEN & BROWN, 96 Broadway.

FOR SALE—DWELLINGS, HOUSES AND LOTS,
for cash and long credit, or taken in exchange property
for investment; house in 4th-st. to let; one do. in
47th-st.
J. K. POND, No. 586 6th-av.

AT ASTORIA.—FOR SALE—A COMMODIOUS
and pleasantly located country seat; gas, range and
and furnaces; ground about one acre. Apply to H.
WHITEHEAD, No. 105, near 9th-st., New-York.

PETROLEUM.—FOR SALE—400 ACRES OF
excellent oil land, on the South Sandy, Venango Co.,
Penn.; also 25 acres in Crawford Co., Penn. Inquire at
office of J. A. GILBERT, No. 71 Broadway, Room No. 72.

FOR SALE.—THE ENGLISH BASEMENT
house No. 91 East Thirty-sixth-st., 17x80x100. In-
quire at No. 105, same street.

FOR SALE—THE THREE-STORY HOUSE NO.
42 Grove-st. High-stoop, sub-cellar, and in good
order. Apply to F. TILLOU, No. 1 Nassau-st.

FOR SALE—ON BLEECKER-ST., NEAR PERRY,
a vacant plot, 94x80, suitable for a church or stores.
Apply to D. M. SEAMAN, No. 14 Pine-st.

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICES.

THIS CERTIFIES THAT I HAVE THIS
day taken DAVID A. BOWEN as a partner in my
business under the firm of JOSEPH FARYS & CO.,
and shall continue the manufacturing of Gold and Sil-
ver Watch Cases, at No. 16 Maiden-lane, New-York.
NEW-YORK, Feb. 1, 1866. JOSEPH FARYS.

THE COPARTNERSHIP HERETOFORE
existing under the name and firm of CUNNING-
HAM & CAMMANN, is this day dissolved by limitation.
NEW-YORK, Feb. 1, 1866.
JAMES W. CUNNINGHAM,
GEO. P. CAMMANN.

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICE.—MR. GEO.
CARRINGTON TAYLOR has become a member of
our firm from this date. READ, TAYLOR & CO.,
NEW-YORK, Jan. 1, 1866. No. 9 Maiden-lane.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SKETCH-BOOK OF
THE WAR.—100 plates, splendidly bound in Turkish
morocco, complete in two volumes. Price $150. A de-
scriptive page accompanies each plate, the whole form-
ing a rich and valuable work. Also bound in 20 num-
bers at $5 each. Can be seen at Room No. 20, No. 209
Broadway. Agents wanted to canvass the above. None
but men of respectability need apply.

MEDICAL.

STRICTURE, FISTULA AND PILES,
radically cured without the knife, caustic or acid, by
HENRY A. DANIELS, M. D.,
Consulting and Operative Surgeon, No. 2 Union-square.

MRS. W. H. MAXWELL, FEMALE
Physician, No. 6 Greene-st., near Canal.

REMOVAL—EDWARD H. ARNOLD & SON,
Agents of the Universal Sewing Silks and Machine
Twist, have removed to No. 253 Broadway, between
Chambers and Warren sts.

FINANCIAL.

UNDERHILL & HAVEN,
BANKERS AND BROKERS,
NO. 67 WALL-STREET, NEW-YORK,
DEALERS IN BUSINESS PAPER.
GOLD LOANS NEGOTIATED.
ADVANCES MADE ON MERCHANDISE.
STOCKS, BONDS, GOLD AND GOVERNMENT
SECURITIES BOUGHT AND SOLD ON COMMIS-
SION AT THE NEW-YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.
J. F. UNDERHILL, G. G. HAVEN, A. FINDLAY, Jr.
Member N. Y. Gold Exchange. Member N. Y. Stock Exchange.

THE LOUISIANA
AGRICULTURAL COMPANY.

It is conceded by most parties that the now wasted and desolate plantations of the South can never be restored to their former state of productiveness save by the introduction of that powerful auxiliary,
CAPITAL.
The State of Louisiana, by the richness and fertility of its soil and the salubrity of its climate, at present offers greater inducements to capitalists than any other region of the Southern States.
This company, already incorporated, has been organized, and proposes to commence its operations as soon as the necessary amount of stock has been subscribed. It proposes, by a judicious use of its means, with its head office in New-Orleans and branch offices in New-York, to
PURCHASE OR LEASE,
as it may deem most advisable,
PLANTATIONS NOW LYING IDLE,
and work them under its superintendents; and also to advance funds to planters upon growing crops, the company to receive a share of the product when ready for market. This enterprise promises a better return for the investment of capital than anything ever before offered to the public.
Its President is now in the city, and will be happy to give to all the result of a six months' tour through the State of Louisiana, with a view to ascertain definitely the condition of the country, statistics, &c.
By addressing a note, or calling at the COMPANY'S OFFICE,
No. 49 EXCHANGE-PLACE, ROOM No. 19,
circulars, which enter more fully into the detail of its prospective operations, will be forwarded, together with a copy of its charter and by-laws.
D. W. CORBIN,
President Louisiana Agricultural Company,
No. 49 Exchange-place, Room No. 19.

THE
AMERICAN BUREAU OF MINES.
Mines, mineral lands and ores examined and reported upon. Competent engineers furnished to Mining Companies.
Consultations afforded on all mining, metallurgical and chemical questions at the office of the bureau, Rooms Nos. 19, 20 and 21, Nos. 64 and 66 Broadway.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.
Geo. D. H. Gillespie.
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Prof. Thomas Egleston, Jr., of the School of Mines of Columbia College.
Prof. C. F. Chandler, of the School of Mines of Columbia College.
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Dr. Herman Credner, Geologist and Mining Engineer.
GEO. D. H. GILLESPIE, President.
DRAKE DE KAY, Secretary.

NEW-YORK GUARANTY AND INDEM-
NITY COMPANY.
NO. 14 BROAD-ST.
CAPITAL, $2,000,000.

DIRECTORS.
A. A. Low,
L. VON HOFFMAN,
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CASH
ADVANCES
MADE ON
MERCHANDISE, IN STORE AND IN TRANSIT,
STOCKS, BONDS AND OTHER SECURITIES.
Also, on shipments to Europe.
This company is prepared to take the management of real and personal estates, to negotiate loans for States and corporations, and to collect interest, coupons, &c.
Certificates of deposits will be issued, bearing interest.

NOTICE.
TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, Jan. 29, 1866.
Notice is hereby given that the Treasury of the United States, the Assistant Treasurers at New-York, Philadelphia and Boston, and the designated Depositaries at Baltimore and Cincinnati, have been instructed to discontinue, on and after the 1st of February next ensuing, receiving deposits for temporary loan at six per cent. interest.
They have been instructed to receive such deposits in lawful money on and after that date, at five per cent. interest, payable on ten days' notice, after thirty days from date of deposit.
Secretary of the Treasury.

JOHN MUNROE & CO.,
AMERICAN BANKERS,
No. 5 Rue de la Paix, Paris,
and
No. 8 Wall-st., New-York,
issue circular letters of credit for travelers in all parts of Europe, &c., &c. Also, commercial credits.

LHERBETTE, KANE & CO.,
AMERICAN BANKERS AND GENERAL FOR-
WARDING AGENTS,
No. 8 Place de la Bourse, Paris
Travelers in Europe can have their letters sent to the above address.

SAMUEL B. HARD,
BANKER AND BROKER,
No. 66 EXCHANGE-PLACE,
Corner New-st., New-York.
GOVERNMENT BONDS, RAILROAD STOCKS, &c.,
Bought and sold, on Commission.
Interest allowed on deposits, subject to draft at sight.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,
NO. 56 WALL-ST.
ISSUE COMMERCIAL AND TRAVELERS' CREDITS
FOR USE IN ANY PART OF THE COUNTRY
AND ABROAD

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY,
WASHINGTON, Dec. 23, 1865.
WHEREAS, BY SATISFACTORY EVI-
DENCE presented to the undersigned, it has been
made to appear that the Mechanics' and Traders' Na-
tional Bank, in the City of New-York, in the County of
New-York and State of New-York, has been duly organ-
ized under and according to the requirements of the act
of Congress entitled an Act to provide a national curren-
cy, secured by a pledge of United States bonds, and to
provide for the circulation and redemption thereof, ap-
proved June 3, 1864, and has complied with all the pro-
visions of said act required to be complied with before
commencing business under said act.
Now, therefore, I, FREEMAN CLARKE, Comptroller of
the Currency, do hereby certify that the Mechanics' and
Traders' National Bank in the City of New-York, in the
City of New-York, in the County of New-York and State
of New-York, is authorized to commence the business
of banking, under the act aforesaid.
In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my hand and seal
[SEAL.] of office, this 23d day of December, 1865.
FREEMAN CLARKE,
Comptroller.
No. 1,624.

CUMBERLAND COAL AND IRON COM-
PANY.—NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF SECOND
MORTGAGE BONDS.—The undersigned, Trustees un-
der the second mortgage of this company, will receive
proposals for the sale to them for the purposes of the
sinking fund, of all or any part of thirteen of the second
mortgage bonds, such proposals to be in writing, ad-
dressed to the Trustees, and left at the office of this
company, on or before the 15th day of February, instant,
stating the number of bonds offered and the lowest price
at which they will be sold.
A. S. A. KAPELLO,
FREDERICK A. COE,
JAMES C. BELL,
Trustees.
NEW-YORK, Feb. 1, 1866.

NOTICE.—THE MISSISQUOI BANK, FORMER-
ly located and doing business at Sheldon, Franklin
County, Vermont, having been represented insolvent and
enjoined by the Court of Chancery, and the undersigned
appointed receiver, and the time limited to six months
from the 30th day of January, A. D. 1866, for creditors of said bank
must present and prove their claims against said bank;
creditors are hereby notified that the undersigned will
receive such claims at the banking house of said bank,
in Sheldon, Vermont, on the 30th day of January, A. D. 1866.
D. WEAD, Receiver.
SHELDON, Vermont, Jan. 17, 1866.

TRANSFER OFFICE OF THE
CHICAGO AND NORTH WESTERN R. R. CO.,
No. 6 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, Jan. 29, 1866.
COUPONS DUE FEB. 1, 1866, FROM THE
bonds of the "Chicago and Northwestern Railway
Company" and the "Galena and Chicago Union Railroad
Company" will be paid on and after that date, on presen-
tation at this office.
JAMES R. YOUNG, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE JEFFERSON INSURANCE COMPANY,
No. 60 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, Jan. 29, 1866.
THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIREC-
tors of this company will be held at this office on
MONDAY, Feb. 5, 1866.
Polls open from 1 to 3 o'clock, P. M.
SAMUEL E. BELCHER, Secretary.

RAILROAD NOTICE.—NOTICE IS HEREBY
given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of
the Dubuque and Sioux City Railroad Company, for the
election of Directors, will take place at the office of the
company, Dubuque, Iowa, on MONDAY and TUESDAY,
Feb. 12, 1866.
LOUIS BOISOT, Secretary.
Dubuque, Jan. 2, 1866.

$400,000 TO LOAN ON BOND AND
MORTGAGE—In sums to suit, at 6
and 7 per cent. Apply to DAVIS, REYNOLDS & WY-
MAN, Attorneys &c., No. 3 Pine-st.

COMMISSIONER FOR MASSACHU-
SETTS and other States—No. 5 Beekman-st., Room
No. 5, first floor over Park Bank.

SHIPPING.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COM-
PANY'S
THROUGH LINE
TO CALIFORNIA,
AND CARRYING THE UNITED STATES MAIL,
leave Pier No. 42 North River, foot of Canal-st., at 12
o'clock noon, on the 1st, 11th and 21st of every month, (ex-
cept when those dates fall on Sunday, and then on the
preceding Saturday,) for ASPINWALL, connecting, via
Panama Railway, with one of the company's steamships
from Panama for SAN FRANCISCO, touching at ACA-
PULCO.

FEBRUARY.
1st. HENRY CHAUNCEY, connecting with the COLO-
RADO.
10th. ATLANTIC, connecting with SACRAMENTO.
21st. NEW-YORK, connecting with CONSTITUTION.
Departures of 1st and 21st connect at Panama with
steamers for SOUTH PACIFIC PORTS; 1st and 11th
for CENTRAL AMERICAN PORTS. Those of 1st
touch at MAZATLAN.
THROUGH PASSAGE RATES, IN CURRENCY.

	First Cabin.	Second Cabin.	Steerage.
To Panama	$300	$200	$100

A discount of ONE-QUARTER from steamers rates
will be allowed to second cabin and steerage passengers
accompanied by their families.
Baggage checked through. One hundred pounds
allowed each adult.
An experienced surgeon on board. Medicines and at-
tendance free.
For passage tickets or further information apply at the
company's ticket office, on the wharf, foot of Canal-st.,
North River, New-York.
F. W. G. BELLOWS, Agent.

FOR CALIFORNIA VIA NICARAGUA.
EXTRAORDINARY LOW PRICES.

First Class.	Second Class.	Third Class.
$175 to $150.	$100.	$50.

THROUGH TO SAN FRANCISCO.
The Central American Transit Company having placed
a fine new steamboat on LAKE NICARAGUA, thereby
insuring passengers
A PROMPT AND RELIABLE TRANSIT,
will dispatch the fast and elegant steamship
SANTIAGO DE CUBA,
JERRY H. SMITH, Esq., Commander,
on TUESDAY, Feb. 20, at noon, from Pier No. 29 North
River, foot of Warren-st., at the above
EXTRAORDINARY LOW PRICES.
For passage apply early, by mail or in person, at No.
177 West-st., corner of Warren.
D. N. CARRINGTON, Agent.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
Consignees of freight per Pacific Mail Steamship Com-
pany's steamers will receive orders for delivery at the of-
fice of the company, No. 34 Broadway, upon sur-
render of their bills of lading

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

A HAPPY SKATING TIME.

Weather Non Prohibitum—Ice Ad Libitum.

Whatever grounds for grumbling skaters may have had in the unsettled state of the weather in the earlier portion of the season, surely they can well afford to forget their disappointments in the all-appreciable present.

There never was a week since ice was first invented so well disposed by day and night to those who enjoy the happy games upon it. Cold enough to keep the surface firm and smooth, or make good the irregularities of the day before, yet mild enough to make the gentlest exercise enjoyable, day followed day, a repitition in its genial atmosphere and its pleasant, sunny noon of the one preceding. The nights were no less enjoyable. The unclouded moon made luminous as day almost the ponds and lakes and promenades.

CENNRAL PARK.

How the happy week ran out upon the lakes can only be known by those who went there to see. The same old story that thousands and tens of thousands whiled the happy hours away from Monday morning till late last night, during all the reasonable and some of the unreasonable hours of the twenty-four, might be told, and yet convey no idea or the ever-running river of people, old and young, that rolled in and out of the park avenues and on and off the lakes. Nor is there any way but the one of going and seeing it for one's self to arrive at the knowledge of the multitudinous ways good people have of enjoying themselves upon ice.

Saturday being school holiday, lets loose the youngsters at an early hour, mothers being wisely-indulgent in such skating weather as this is. If there were many little ones in the city who didn't get to the park yesterday, then we can only wonder where in the world they all come from, for they hopped along the paths as plentiful as grasshoppers among the grass in sunny June, and skimmed along the ice as swallows swarm before migration. So crowded were the banks with these buzzing little flies that the great blue-bottles were disgusted, disturbed in their most graceful pigeon-wings at every turn. Nevertheless there was room enough for fun, if not for the fancy.

FIFTH-AVENUE POND.

The gallant Fifth outshone itself last evening, and were it not that everybody appeared so happy, we would have been tempted to charge Major OATMAN with the ambition of a car conductor who beckons for more when he is full to overflowing. But as everybody seemed to know everybody else, and collisions were provocative of laughter only, or the exercise of good manners in well-turned apologies, and as we heard no grumbling, it is fair to suppose there were only just enough upon the pond for comfort. Such was the appetite for lively music there was a compound orchestra—not a union of GRAFULLA and LENAN, but of two German bands with names beyond the compass of ordinary pronunciation. These, by playing alternately, kept up a perpetual stream of music, affording to each other alternately the advantages of the Major's hospitality, which kept their courage up and wet their whistles in satisfactory and businesslike manner. Flaming barrels and fiery torches were lighted as the day grew dim, and many beautiful fireworks were set off, flinging their showers of golden rain and many-colored stars upon the moving crowd below.

Many of the ladies were quite picturesquely dressed, this being the nearest approach to "Carnival" the properly fastidious young ladies of Fifth-avenue seem to favor.

Altogether they had a happy time of it, belles and beaux; and if there were 10,000 visitors to the pond during the day—and we do not doubt it—was not the heart of the hospitable Major happy too?

THE EXCELSIOR.

The Excelsior is not so well attended as it deserves, being a well-kept, well-covered sheet of ice, but it is not near its more aristocratic neighbor on the one hand to gain many of the exclusives over, and too near the free and easy lakes of the Park on the other to be a temptation to plebeian quarter dollars. It is therefore not so lively as it might be, but when the ball drops at the Park it will doubtless have its day or two again, as it had before it rose. The ice on these ponds keeps good much longer than that upon the lakes.

THE BROOKLYN PONDS.

The Capitoline and the Washington were crowded every evening during the week, as the car conductors could testify who brought home the happy crowds from 10 o'clock till morning. Fancy dresses, fireworks, music and ignoble races after greased pigs lent beauty or fun to the healthy evening exercises. Carnivals are to come off everywhere next week. Everybody will be in a mask next week but those who wear them regularly—and they are many.

THE UNITED STATES STEAMER NARCISSUS.

Further Details from Ensign Lennan.

In addition to the particulars already detailed in the TIMES, concerning the loss of the United States steamer *Narcissus*, we are furnished by Ensign LENNAN, of the steamer *Newbern*, with the following data:

The *Narcissus* was a screw steamer of about 100 tons burden, carrying two guns. In 1864 she was in FARRAGUT's fleet, and was stationed, during the greater part of the year, in front of Mobile. On the night of the 7th of December, while cruising about she struck a torpedo and was sunk, though subsequently raised.

On the 2d of February, 1864, she was dispatched from the Brooklyn Navy-yard, and on the 18th of April made a seizure, resulting in the not very valuable prize of a rebel mail and $6,000 in Confederate scrip.

The facts connected with her last cruise, and the terrible fate of her officers and crew, are simple but fearful. Under command of Capt. BRADBURY, the *Narcissus* and her consort, the *Althea*, left Pensacola for Key West on the same day. Both vessels were to be sold on arrival by order of the government. On the 3d of January they made land near the entrance of Tampa Bay, where the shoals reach out into the gulf some 6 or 7 miles, making the breakers dangerous at all times, and especially when as in this instance both current and wind set full upon them. Toward nightfall the vessels anchored in other words, the exercise of good manners in well-turned apologies, and as we heard no grumbling, it is fair to suppose there were only just enough upon the pond for comfort. Such was the appetite for lively music there was a compound orchestra—not a union of GRAFULLA and LENAN, but of two German bands with names beyond the compass of ordinary pronunciation. These, by playing alternately, kept up a perpetual stream of music, affording to each other alternately the advantages of the Major's hospitality, which kept their courage up and wet their whistles in satisfactory and businesslike manner. Flaming barrels and fiery torches were lighted as the day grew dim, and many beautiful fireworks were set off, flinging their showers of golden rain and many-colored stars upon the moving crowd below.

Many of the ladies were quite picturesquely dressed, this being the nearest approach to "Carnival" the properly fastidious young ladies of Fifth-avenue seem to favor.

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The *Althea* herself, though far removed, was held fast at one time for several moments, and nothing but the power of her engines and the will of that Divinity which so mysteriously provides that one should be seen and the other left secured for her redemption from the fate of her consort. At the moment of relief Capt. KILGORE's attention was called to the signals which hung from the *Narcissus*. Utterly unable to make them out, he asked by signal if they were in danger. No answer was returned, and in a few brief moments the *Narcissus* was seen to disappear, break up and pierce the foaming waters, carrying with her her precious freight of human life.

The *Althea's* danger was by no means past. Between her power and that of the hungry waters a struggle long and fierce ensued, in which, thanks to Providence, she came out the conqueror. The next day in safety she reached her port, and at once search was instituted for her missing consort. Nothing was found, however, except the dead body of one of her firemen and the hat of her Captain. Beyond doubt, the vessel and almost all on board went down in the whirls and surges upon the shoal. Lieut. BRADBURY was an Acting Ensign in the Navy, and resided at Calais, Maine. Mr. DUNBAR, the executive officer, was from Casstine, Maine. The rest, some thirty of them, perished with their officers, and their fate, never, are not furnished us.

Another Libel Suit by Mr. A. T. Stewart.

Mr. A. T. STEWART, the well-known millionaire, has commenced a suit for libel against the proprietors and publishers of the *Daily Missouri Republican*, and RICHARD T. COLBURN, the New-York correspondent of that paper.

Mr. STEWART alleges that, on the 15th of January, the proprietors of the *Republican*, Messrs. GEO. KNAPP, N. PASCHALL and JOHN KNAPP, published in their paper an article written by Mr. COLBURN, of which the following forms a part:

"One of the richest men in all the world is one of the most miserable. There is an example here in New-York of a prominent business man who is literally driven by his affairs so that he cannot even take one day out of seven for rest, and not one in a year for recreation. He never, or rarely, invites any one to dine with him, and it is said his domestic relations are dreadfully infelicitous, (though this is not peculiar to millionaires.) He is reported to have offered his wife half a million lately to consent to a divorce and also, with a cunning and avaricious worthy of her selfish spouse, refuses, hoping to outlive him. He has no heirs of his own, but has several by side issues. He allows his wife a splendid house and ten thousand dollars a year for pin money, and is building a new palatial mansion on Fifth-avenue, to cost a million of dollars; while he allows one of his mistresses a house and five thousand dollars a year pin money. He is fearful of his personal safety, and not long ago discovered a plan to abduct him, so as to extort money from him by force. He never gives anything to charity, but sometimes does to politics."

Mr. GEORGE KNAPP and Mr. COLBURN were both arrested, and yesterday gave bail for their appearance on Monday morning at 10 A. M., at the Tombs Police Court, to answer the charge against them.

Promenade Concert of the Twenty-second Regiment.

The seventh regular promenade concert of the Twenty-second Regiment, National Guard S. N. Y., took place last evening at the armory in Fourteenth-street, for the benefit of the Patriot Orphan Home. This concert was given under the auspices of ladies whose social position and influence insured its success in all the proprieties, while the judicious management of the affair, and the noble character of the charity it was intended to aid, accomplished a very gratifying pecuniary result. The officers were:

President, Mrs. William Topping. Vice-President, Mrs. Claudius L. Monell. Recording Secretary, Mrs. H. Zabriskie. Corresponding Secretaries, Mrs. Edward Fitch, Mrs. J. H. Burtis. Treasurer, Mrs. William J. Haddock.

The Managers—Mrs. Gen. Wm. K. Strong, Mrs. Stephen Cutter, Mrs. John Chisholm, Mrs. J. S. Gushan, Mrs. Josiah Sutherland, Mrs. A. Merwin, Mrs. S. A. Spencer, Mrs. S. H. Wales, Mrs. Edward Anthony, Mrs. Gen. Tyndall, Mrs. Edgar Pinchot, Mrs. Wm. Gale, Jr., Mrs. Wm. Tuthill, Mrs. Rev. Dr. Eastburn, Charles H. Hunt, Mrs. W. H. Hutchings, Mrs. Rev. Stephen H. Tyng, Mrs. Henry M. Field, Mrs. John H. Sprague, Mrs. Gen. Marcy, Mrs. R. F. Cowles, Mrs. Robbins, Miss L. A. Halsted, Miss J. Andrews, Mrs. Walter Bowne, Miss Lila Davis, Mrs. L. A. Fowle.

This was a good deed well done.

ATTEMPTED MURDER.

A Man Shoots the Mate of the Steamship Manhattan—Revenge Supposed to be the Motive for the Crime.

On the 23d of last month, a coal-passer on board the steamship *Manhattan*, named MARTIN HALEY, and several of the crew, became involved in a difficulty with HENRY CURWIN, the second officer of the ship, while the steamer lay at her dock, at Pier No. 8, North River. During the melée which ensued, the mate fired his revolver at the crewd, the ball taking effect in HALEY's head, inflicting a fatal wound, from the effects of which he died during the night. It will be remembered that CURWIN was held by the Coroner's Jury, on the evidence, as responsible for the death of HALEY. He was admitted to bail, but subsequently discharged by District-Attorney HALL.

During Thursday night, JOHN HERZ, a German, residing at No. 82 Willett-street, and employed as a night scavenger, while at work in Canal-street, near Watts' Hotel, was severely wounded in the head by a pistol ball fired at him by CHARLES HARRINGTON. Officer CHAMBERS, of the Twenty-eighth Precinct, who was patrolling his beat in Canal-street, on the opposite side of the thoroughfare, saw a man fire four shots from a pistol at HERZ, apparently in a deliberative and willful manner. HERZ ran across the street two or three times endeavoring to escape from his assailant. The officer gave chase to the man, arrested him, and conveyed him to the station-house. The prisoner, who gave his name as CHARLES HARRINGTON, was committed by Justice LEDWITH, of the Jefferson Market Police Court, to answer the charge at the General Sessions in default of $1,500.

While Officer FRANSSEN was conveying his prisoner to the station-house, Officer FIELDS, of the Fifth Precinct, found a man staggering through Canal-street in the direction of the river. He at first thought he was intoxicated, but on examination found that he had been shot, the ball lodging in the back of the skull. The injured man was conveyed to the New-York Hospital, when it was discovered that he was the mate of the *Manhattan*, who had shot HALEY, the fireman on board that steamer, and it is charged that he was shot by HARRINGTON, the same man that had shot the scavener, out of a desire for revenge.

Yesterday morning Coroner WILDEY and his deputy, Dr. BEACH, proceeded to the hospital and made an ante-mortem examination. Having impanneled a jury, the following evidence was elicited:

ANTE-MORTEM STATEMENT OF HENRY CURWIN, THE MATE.

On Thursday night, about ten o'clock I was walking with WM. O'DEY and HARRINGTON, along Canal-street. HARRINGTON was under the influence of liquor; he was walking on the left side of me; at the corner of Hudson-street I was just bidding him good night when he stepped back suddenly, and immediately afterward I felt that I was shot; I fell upon my hands and knees; I got up and ran, and while I was running I heard four more shots fired; I feel positive that it was HARRINGTON that shot me, as there was no one else around; I heard from O'DEY that HARRINGTON was the one who shot me; O'DEY called out for the police when I was shot.

STATEMENT OF OFFICER FRANSSEN.

George D. Franssen, being sworn, deposed:—I am a police officer of the Twenty-eighth Precinct. Thursday night, at about 11 o'clock, I was on my post in Canal-street, on the north side, between Renwick and Hudson-streets; I saw a party of four or five on the corner of Canal and Watt-street; immediately afterward I heard the report of a pistol; there were three shots in quick succession, and after about half a minute a fourth shot; the shots came from one of the party; I arrested him and searched him, but found no pistol on him; I afterward took him to the station-house, where he gave his name as Charles Harrington; there were several night scavengers at work near by, who identified Harrington as the man who fired the pistol; one of the scavengers was shot in the head, but not dangerously.

The Coroner then submitted the case to the jury, who brought in the following verdict:

"That HENRY CURWIN was dangerously wounded by a pistol shot at the hands of CHARLES HARRINGTON on the 1st day of February, 1866."

The prisoner was therefore committed to the Tombs to await the results of CURWIN's injuries. The wounded man is 34 years of age, a native of England, and resides at No. 124 Sheriff-street.

Convention of School Trustees.

A convention of School Trustees was held in School No. 4, Rivington-street, last evening, GEORGE WASHINGTON LEE, of the Nineteenth Ward, in the chair, and Mr. BAKER, of the Twenty-first Ward, Secretary. After a long discussion of a somewhat desultory character, relating to the relative powers of school commissioners and school trustees, and the amendment to the School Bill now before the Legislature, it was resolved that a committee of seven, one from each district, wait upon the President and Clerk of the Board of Education and present the views of that convention, asking that the proposed amended bill before the Legislature may be so amended as to give power to the Board of Education to assume the control of the school the trustees of which may be derelict of their duty.

The Chairman then appointed the following committee: Messrs. Aiken, Tooker, Booth, Sloat, Ryan, Diamond and Lyon.

The meeting then adjourned.

Prof. Blot's Cooking Academy.

Prof. BLOT announced to his class at the session on Tuesday last that he would give them a vacation until Thursday, Feb. 8, when he would resume his course in Room No. 21 Cooper Institute. The change, he said, would secure them much better and more spacious accommodation, and thus make the imparting as well as the receiving instruction easier and more agreeable. In announcing the change, the Professor remarked that he would perhaps be pardoned for taking advantage of the occasion to congratulate himself and his pupils that his efforts to establish the fact that cookery might be taught as a science had been crowned with success, as was proved by the fact that the trustees of Cooper Institute had placed rooms in that building at his disposal.

Throwing Ashes and Garbage into the Streets.

Some time ago the Mayor directed the Street Cleaning Contractors to report the number of houses in each ward, the occupants of which are in the habit of throwing ashes and refuse matter into the streets. Yesterday the following report was handed in:

OFFICE OF CONTRACTORS FOR CLEANING STREETS, }
NEW-YORK, Feb. 3, 1863. }

Hon. John T. Hoffman, Mayor:

DEAR SIR: Inclosed is a summary of the number of houses in each ward that constantly throw their ashes, garbage, &c., into the streets and gutters. Agreeably to your request, our foremen have been directed by us to only take the number of those whose practice it is daily to cast into the streets their accumulations, and the following is the correct account rendered to us by them:

Wards.	No. Houses.	Wards.	No. Houses.
Very bad.. 1st.	273	Very bad..15th.	252
Very bad.. 2d.	—	Very bad..16th.	376
Very bad.. 3d.	51	Very bad..17th.	1,093
Very bad.. 4th.	362	Very bad..18th.	543
Very bad.. 5th.	215	Very bad..19th.	58
Very bad.. 6th.	462	Very bad..20th.	604
Very bad.. 7th.	866	Very bad..21st.	424
Very bad.. 8th.	372	Very bad..22d.	786
Very bad.. 9th.	269	Broadway, 4th, 6th and 8th avs. and Bowery.....	117
Very bad..10th.	174		
Very bad..11th.	908		
Very bad..13th.	230		
Very bad..14th.	418	Total.....	10,042

All of which is respectfully submitted for your consideration, Your obedient servants,

BROWN, DEVOE & KNAPP,
Contractors Cleaning Streets.

American Bible Society.

The stated meeting of the Managers was held at the Bible House, Astor Place, on Thursday, the 1st inst., WILLIAM WHITLOCK, Jr., Esq., in the Chair, assisted by NORMAN WHITE, FREDERICK S. WINSTON, and JAMES SUYDAM, Esqs. Rev. Dr. VERMILYE read the 52d chapter of Isaiah, and offered prayer. Two new auxiliaries were recognized, in Ohio and Alabama. Communications were received from Rev. E. E. HALL, of Florence, and Rev. WILLIAM CLARK, Milan, with gratifying accounts of the distribution of the Scriptures in Italy by colporteurs under their supervision; from Rev. JAMES HICKEY, Monterey, showing the progress of his work in Mexico, and from Mr. ANDREW M. MILNE, Rosario, as to his work in the Argentine Confederation, and stating the continued use of the Testament in a school supplied by him on a former visit. Grants of books were made to the American Missionary Association for distribution by friends among the freedmen in Maryland; to the Moravian Freedmen's Mission; to the Board of Missions of the Reformed Dutch Church; to the Sunday School Union of the Methodist Episcopal Church; to the Superintendent of Freedmen's Schools in Georgia; to the Friends' Freedmen's Aid Society; for sale and distribution by Mr. MILNE in the Argentine Confederation, with many grants to Bible societies and committees in the Southern States, including eight volumes for the blind. The entire number of volumes granted was 9,868. Printing books to the value of $1,400 to societies promoting their work in the South. Communications were received from Hon. GRANT GOODRICH, of Chicago, Ill., and from JAMES SUYDAM, Esq., of this city, signifying their acceptance of the office of Vice-President, to which they were elected at the former meeting of the board. The decease of the venerable Dr. NORTH, one of the original founders of this society, was announced, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. This leaves but one of the noble band of men who founded this society still among the living, Rev. Dr. SPRING, of this city.

Escape of Seven Prisoners from Sing Sing.

Superintendent KENNEDY received a telegram yesterday morning from Mr. JOHNSON, the Warden of the State Prison at Sing Sing, informing him that a number of prisoners escaped from that institution at about 3 o'clock yesterday morning. The names of the escaped convicts are as follows:

JOHN DOBBS, short, thick-set, black curly hair and grey eyes; sentenced for five years.

PATRICK BURNS, short, thick-set, light hair, very full red face; sentenced for five years.

JAMES MOLLENBERG, slight build, black hair, about 5 feet 6 inches in height; sentenced for ten years and has served nine years.

JOHN DONLAN, 25 inches in height, light hair and eyes; sentenced for ten years.

Also RICHARD GRAMMYORD, a well known burglar, JAMES CARLISLE and JOHN DAVIS escaped at the same time. Their exit was made by means of false keys, and at the time four of the keepers were on duty in the hall through which the convicts passed.

Within a very short time several other criminals have escaped from Sing Sing, including JACK SHEPARD, ED. GRIFFITHS and BILL HAMPTON, well known burglars, and MAC DUVALL, a pickpocket.

RATIFICATION OF THE AMENDMENT.

Mass Meeting of Colored Men and Women—Speeches by Rev. Sella Martin, Theodore Tilton and Frederick Douglass.

On Wednesday evening, at Cooper Institute, the colored men and women of New-York and vicinity assembled to ratify the Constitutional Amendment prohibiting the enslavement of men, except for crime, in the United States. About an eight of the audience were of the Caucasian race. Mr. GEORGE S. SMITH presided. The exercises were commenced with prayer by Rev. S. T. JONES, and a choir of colored misses followed with

"No slave beneath that starry flag,
The emblem of the free!
No fettered hand shall wield the brand
That smites for liberty!

No tramp of servile armies
Shall shame Columbia's shore;
For he who fights for freedom's rights
Is free forever more!"

Prof. PATRICK L. REASON read Secretary SEWARD'S Proclamation declaring that the amendment abolishing slavery forever had virtually become a part of the Constitution of the United States, and Rev. SELLA MARTIN was then introduced.

REMARKS OF REV. SELLA MARTIN.

It is important for us to know by what right we undertake to celebrate the ratification of the amendment to the constitution, abolishing slavery forever throughout the United States. The most clear headed among our statesmen differ, and their wisest and calmest counsels become perplexed when the facts about reconstruction, or the present relations of the recently rebellious States to the Union, are discussed. One party—and that party consists of some of the purest of our friends, holds that the rebellious States are out of the Union, on the ground that they have forfeited their right to be in it; and another party—having in it, too, many warm friends to the colored race—holds that these States are in the Union because they were not successful in the attempt to get out of it. Now, it seems to me that those who deny the disruption of the Union have the right of the argument. Either this amendment has been ratified or it has not. If it has been ratified, and according to the mode prescribed by the constitution, then the rebellious States must be in the Union; for the number of States required to ratify was only secured by counting the votes of three or four of these rebellious States; and if the vote of these States are not to be counted, then we have as yet no other anti-slavery amendment to the constitution. Sir, we can fight our battle better, and with better weapons, with every State in the Union than we can if even one is out of it. Slavery is the subjection of one man to another by the general consent of a community. This general consent may take the form of positive law, and that positive law may be carried further than a mere agreement to enslave; it may enact measures to secure the carrying out of its previous agreement. Those measures may be total disfranchisement of the slave, as in the case of the United States, where a slave was known *only* as a chattel; or they may be partial disfranchisement, as in Cuba, where a slave is known to the law as a person, that he can compel his master to sell him to himself when he can prove his ability to buy himself. These measures may reach further still, and not only totally disfranchise the slave, but they may extend total disfranchisement to the race to which the slave belongs, as was the case in the South; or they may make a distinction, and while the slave is totally and partially distranchised, that part of his race which is free shall have all the rights and privileges of other citizens, as is the case in Brazil. Now common law and common sense both teach that when the positive law by which these men were enslaved is abolished, the measures by which that law was under hearty application, and Mr. J. J. ZUILLE read the following petition which a delegation of colored men in Washington have prepared for presentation in Congress:

PETITION.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

The undersigned would respectfully beg leave to represent that the late fierce conflict which the country has passed many questions have risen, involving the future destiny of the nation—questions whose settlement will receive the immediate attention of the American statesman, looking, as he must, to the good of the millions of people that now inhabit the soil, and the generations that must follow them, and respectfully pray your honorable body, as the legislative department of the government.

1. To settle by law what constitutes a citizen of the United States and the rights and privileges appertaining thereto.

2. To settle by positive enactment that no citizen shall be deprived of the privileges of citizenship by State regulation.

3. To establish by enactment the supremacy of the courts of justice of the United States over that of State courts.

4. To settle how citizens of any State may be protected in their rights and privileges in passing to other States and taking up their residence therein, according to article 4, section 2 of the Constitution of the United States, which declares that "the citizens of each State shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States."

5. To declare null and void all laws violating the fundamental rights of a citizen, or which degrade any class of the people on account of their color or condition.

Your petitioners feel desirous for the honor and dignity of the country, and they therefore desire to see the channels of its government purified in every department, so that general liberty shall be the protected inheritance of all the people, and just laws and impartial administration of the rule in the nation. And to attain these ends your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. THEODORE TILTON said that during the past four years the march of events had been like that of the giant in the seven-leagued boots of the fable. He related several pleasant anecdotes of his experience at the Sumter flag-raising, and described the class of people that he found in Charleston at that time, and he demanded that the negro, having come home from the tented field, should have the ballot. It is not true, he said, that South Carolina has adopted the amendment to the constitution. Slavery is not dead. Secretary SEWARD sent a telegram to South Carolina, saying, "You must adopt this amendment." South Carolina replied that she could do it, but that it must be explained away; and she adopted the amendment, but with a slave code under it more odious than any that ever existed on her statute books. Mr. TILTON scouted the amendment which was carried in the House of Representatives, on Wednesday, as being practically subversive of human freedom. He would not have the secretary of war "open the doors, or a blue-eyed, light-haired religion; but he would have as his fellow-countrymen the inhabitants of all the earth. Mr. TILTON was frequently applauded.

Miss FRANCES ROLLIN, the first graduate of the vocal conservatory of Oberlin, College, followed in a stirring address which created a profound sensation. She described the sufferings of the slave, and said that whether the black man could rejoice in the adoption of the Constitutional Amendment or otherwise, there was yet cause for joy. The Constitution of the United States can no longer be cited as a barrier between opposite sidewalk, with a tin box under his arm; and on my replying in the negative he said: 'He's a bad fellow; he's going to get a supply of counterfeit money; Superintendent KENNEDY has instructed me to apprehend him; but I don't want to take him until he gets the spurious bills with which he will convict him; wait here until he returns, and then aid me.' I aided in the arrest, and when the spurious officer said that Mr. KENNEDY had ordered him to take the counterfeits at once to police headquarters, and that he would soon be at the station-house to enter complaint, I suspected nothing irregular." Sergt. VAN DUSEN said: "I acted upon the information given me by the patrolman, and, understanding it to be one of Mr. KENNEDY's cases, I dared not interfere, lest I should unwittingly spoil his job. I thought that my only course was to hold the prisoner until I received orders from Mr. KENNEDY." Inspector JAMES LEONARD, in response to a query by Mr. STELLGES, confessed that probably nine out of every ten policemen of the Metropolitan force might have been deceived by this most skillful of robbers. Inspector LEONARD added, in reply to Mr. SPENCER's question, as to whether, during his twenty years' experience as an officer, he had ever met instead of one robbery, two, that he had. He had learned that at a jeweler's in Maiden-lane, on Monday afternoon, a man selected four gold watches and tendered a thousand dollar bank note. The dealer examined the note, and, finding it genuine, naturally left it on the counter while he went to his safe to get change for the purchase. But no sooner had the jeweler gone to the safe than a man who had just driven up in a coach dashed into the store and clapped irons upon the purchaser's wrists, and informing the amazed jeweler that the prisoner had stolen $1,000, suddenly discovered the $1,000 note and seized it, saying, "my my soul, this is the identical bill!" and then thrust it into his pocket. "But," said the jeweler, "he has four of my watches." "Well, Sir," responded the pretender, "he may have any number of stolen watches; but I, as an officer, am not authorized to adjudicate; only the Justice can do that; I shall merely take charge of the bill, and if you appear at once and make the fact known, I dare say Justice Dowling will give you the watches." Thus saying, the fellow bundled his prisoner off into the coach at the door. The jeweler went to the Tombs, and after waiting fifteen minutes, smelt a rat, and told his story to Justice DOWLING, and that magistrate promptly enlightened him as to precisely what had happened.

The Commissioners held that Patrolman STELLGES' error lay in not insisting that the person who was personating a policeman should accompany him to the Greenwich-street Police Station; but Mr. SPENCER thought that the case involved only a technical and unintentional violation of duty, and he therefore hoped that the board would deal leniently with his client. Capt. DICKSON informed the board that Officer STELLGES had manifested a desire to serve the public honestly as a Metropolitan policeman, and that not a week had elapsed ere he made an arrest which reflected great credit upon him. And this is precisely the last of the Greenwich Savings Bank robbery; for the rogue that was keen enough to deceive everybody so thoroughly will surely not be a dunce and fall into a trap with $6,000 in his pockets.

In this connection Inspector LEONARD desires us to publish the following section of the police law:

SEC. 43. It shall be a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment in the County Jail, or in the City and County of New-York, in the Penitentiary, for not more than one year, nor exceeding two years, or by a fine of not less than $250, for any person without justifiable or excusable cause, to use, or to incite any other person to use, personal violence upon any elector, "on any election day," in the Metropolitan Police district, or upon any member of the police thereof, when in the discharge of his duty, or for any member of the police force to wilfully neglect making any arrest for an offence against the law of this State, or ordinance in force in the said district, or for any person not a member of the police force to falsely represent himself as being such member, with a fraudulent design upon persons or property, or for any day or time to refuse to do his duty, or display, without authority, any shield, buttons, wreaths, numbers or other insignia or emblem, such as are worn by the Metropolitan Police.

A CIVILIAN IN DEBRIS.

Mr. ABNER B. LAWTON, of No. 64 East Thirty-sixth-street, was passing through Pearl-street, on his way to his place of business, on the afternoon of the 19th ultimo, and observing a drunken man lying on the sidewalk, he requested Patrolman JAMES DUFFY, of the First Ward, to rouse the man's head as he was gasping for breath. The officer paid little heed, and Mr. LAWTON said, "In the name of humanity I ask you to raise that man's head;" but instead of complying the officer, according to Mr. LAWTON's testimony, lifted the head and let it fall on the sidewalk, and then bade Mr. LAWTON go on about his own business; but Mr. LAWTON renewed his appeal in the inebriate's behalf, and the officer catechised him briefly. Mr. LAWTON, replying to the officer's "Who are you?" said, "I am a citizen and a taxpayer, and as such I order you to raise that man's head and give him a chance." Thereupon, according to the testimony, Patrolman DUFFY seized Mr. LAWTON's neckerchief and choked him, saying, "I'll take you in." And Mr. LAWTON was, he says, "dragged thence through the business streets" wherein he was well known, and hauded over to Capt. WARLOW, who, having listened to his story, released him from restraint. Messrs. WM. H. KNIGHT, C. J. MCCOMBIE, WM. FOSTER, T. J. SAYRE, T. JONES, Robt. B. McLEE, and other merchants of Broad and Pearl streets, corroborated Mr. LAWTON's statements before the Commissioners. Patrolman DUFFY's defence was that he had found a man grossly intoxicated and lying on the sidewalk; he could neither stand nor sit, and as it was necessary to take him to the New-street Police Station, Officer SHEPHERD went to get a hand-cart; Mr. LAWTON interfered, and his boisterous language having attracted a multitude, the officer arrested him. Commissioners ACTON and MCMURRAY having heard the statements on both sides, informed Mr. LAWTON that he should not have attempted to give counsel to a policeman; his motive was undoubtedly good; but he should have known that officers of the Metropolitan Police look only to their ranking officers for instructions. A civilian's remedy is not against any individual officer on the spot, at the time of any misbehavior on the officer's part, but in a charge at Police Headquarters against the officer. Mr. LAWTON, on withdrawing from Trial Chamber, remarked that he had received no redress.

A GERMAN MISUNDERSTOOD.

On the 23d ultimo, Mr. JOHN STEPHEN LIPPS, of No. 18 Jordanson-street, Brooklyn, made the following affidavit before Mr. VINCENT CLARK, Notary: "At 1:45 A. M., while standing at the corner of Pacific and Court streets, Brooklyn, with a lady friend and some gentlemen, conducting themselves in a proper manner, Officer EDWARD HANLEY, of the Forty-third Precinct, without cause or provocation, accosted him in a very violent manner, and ordered him to leave the corner immediately, and on deponent inquiring the cause for such order, said officer pushed the lady, and then shoved him in the side, and conveyed him to the Station-house, where, no cause being found for the arrest, he was immediately dismissed." Mr. LIPPS repeated this charge in actual Chamber, and Officer HANLEN, (who, being a novice in police business, and yet under tutelage in Inspector LEONARD's Police Academy, is familiarly styled by his comrades "a

[illegible], ") said that the party were talking in a loud voice in front of the house, and that they were quarrelling, and he ordered them to move on. Mr. LIPPS' refusing to go away, he made the arrest as reported in the affidavit. It was made clear to his complainant that the officer, being inexperienced and unable to speak German, had acted inhospitably, and Mr. L., quite satisfied, withdrew the complaint.

AN ASSAULT IN WILLIAMSBURGH.

Mr. CHARLES H. RIDGWAY, of Greenpoint, L. I., conductor, was attacked by two ruffians who entered a car at the intersection of Franklin and Kent streets, Brooklyn, at about 9 o'clock on the night of the 24th ult. He leaped from the car, but fell, and the ruffians again attacked, robbed and beat him cruelly. While suffering from his wounds and covered with blood, he requested Sergt. TUNIS V. HOLBROW, of the Forty-seventh Precinct, to arrest the offenders, who were in a saloon near by; but the Sergeant declined, saying: "You must get a warrant for their arrest." This was the showing of Mr. RIDGWAY's affidavit; but on trial the Commissioners thought that the Sergeant succeeded in showing that Mr. RIDGWAY did not inform him where the ruffians were to be found; and this being the case, and no officer having witnessed the assault, the Sergeant was right in regarding it as a case requiring a magistrate's warrant.

ALLEGED CORRUPTION.

On the afternoon of Oct. 16, Mr. WILLIAM CARROL, of No. 243 Ninth-avenue, was grossly assaulted by three persons while he was walking through Mulberry-street with his brother. Several days thereafter he procured a warrant for the arrest of the ruffians, and this warrant was delivered to Officer WILLIAM E. BUCKINGHAM, of the court squad, but the officer has not to this date arrested the fellows, although he has had, Mr. CARROL says, ample opportunity; and since the drawing of the warrant, Mr. CARROL alleges, Officer BUCKINGHAM has repeatedly demanded $50 for services rendered in seeking the accused. The complaint coming up before the Police Commissioners, Mr. WM. F. CARROL appeared, and the board were about to adjourn the trial, when Mr. CARROL who was wanted entered the Trial Chamber and reiterated the foregoing statement, and produced as a witness an officer of the United States Army. Officer testified that Officer BUCKINGHAM had, in his opinion, attempted to obtain $50 from Mr. CARROL. Officer BUCKINGHAM—CARROL came to the Yorkville Police Court and applied for a warrant, saying that his employers would give any officer $50 to arrest the ruffians; but subsequently he was so rude in court that Justice KELLY bade me take no further notice of the warrant, and I dropped it. Capt. MORRIS DE CAMP testified that the warrant subsequently fell into the hands of one of his officers. The Commissioners, under the impression that Officer BUCKINGHAM had not been altogether indifferent in the matter of the $50, informed him that they would look to nobody to take money for police services except under a vote of the board.

UNPROFITABLE COMPLAINTS.

Patrolman JOHN L. DAVIS, of the Twenty-ninth Precinct, charged that from 8:10 to 8:25 on the morning of the 25th ult., Roundsman WM. HARRIS was in the Twenty-ninth Precinct sub-station with hat and coat off, when he should have been out on post. The accused confessed, and in defence offered the testimony of a Sergeant, showing that he had acted under permission, thus disposing of this charge. Officer DONCOURT, also of the Twenty-ninth Precinct, preferred complaint against Roundsman HARRIS, reciting that between 1 and 2 o'clock on the morning of the 19th ult. he "was seen coming out of a gambling-house kept by WM. MORRISSEY, No. 8